

VALLEY FARMER.

A Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy
Adapted to the wants of the people of the Mississippi Valley.

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The Valley Farmer.

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TERMS.

THE VALLEY FARMER is published on the first of each month, each number containing 48 large octavo pages (including 12 pages devoted to advertisements of matters of interest to farmers,) and is offered at the following rates:—

Single copy, one year, - - - - \$1 00
Four copies, \$3; seven copies, \$5; Fifteen copies, \$10.

Payments, in all cases, must be made in advance.—Remittances in gold coins, current bank notes, or postage stamps, may be made by mail at our risk.

AGENTS.—Postmasters and Merchants throughout the country are authorized to act as Agents, and every friend of the enterprise is respectfully requested to aid in extending its circulation.

ADVERTISING.—Advertisements are inserted in the ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT of the Valley Farmer at the following rates:—One insertion of 12 lines, \$1; each additional insertion, 50 cents; 12 lines one year \$6; each additional 12 lines one year, \$4; one page, one insertion, \$7; each additional insertion, \$5; one page, yearly, \$50 reads of six lines or less, one year, \$4.

THE CORN CROP is backward throughout the West, and in many—in fact most—instances farmers have but an indifferent stand. The weather however, has been very favorable for a month past, and it is coming on finely. We think there will be about an average crop.

OATS, we believe have done well everywhere, and the probability is that there will be a large crop gathered. Rye, too, has done well.

FRUIT will be scarce, Peaches none at all, and a scanty supply of apples.

Our paper is a little late this month, owing to our absence, but we will endeavor to be in season next month.

We are happy to state that we have a promise from an old resident of the west of a series of articles upon the different soils of the west, their indications by timber and spontaneous productions, and also their adaptedness to the culture of the different kinds of crops. These essays will comprise a description of the tobacco and hemp lands and give a variety of information of great value to persons seeking a new home, or those who desire to make the best use of the land they already occupy.

THE ADDRESS TO THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS OF THE STATE.—We must commend this address to all our readers, whether they live in Missouri or not. The thoughts and arguments therein contained lose none of their importance when applied to other States besides ours; because the condition of things there portrayed exists all the West, and there is the same need of a corresponding effort in the other States.

Can editors of papers generally do their readers a better service than to lay before them this address?

Mississippi Valley Agricultural and Horticultural Society.—The Lee county Agricultural Society will hold a fair this fall at Keokuk which will be open to all persons living in the upper Mississippi valley, and at the same time an effort will be made to organize a Valley Agricultural and Horticultural Society, so as to hold a grand fair in St. Louis in 1853.—We shall give a more particular account of this movement in our August number.

Stock Raising in Missouri.

Few people are aware of the importance of this branch of industry, or of the capabilities of many portions of our State to produce beef cattle, horses, mules, sheep, and hogs. While in Cooper Co. we learned some facts in regard to this business in that county; and from conversation with many intelligent farmers and stock dealers we conclude that during the twelve months ending June 1, 1855, there was driven from that county, or cut up for market about

3000 head of beef cattle, valued at	
\$3 50 each,	\$97,500
10,000 head of hogs, valued at \$10	\$100,000

Value of cattle and hogs, \$197,000

We could not ascertain the number of mules, working oxen, sheep, or horses, but we know that a very considerable quantity of each have been taken from the county. We notice lately a purchase of 60 or more horses for the dragoon service. Some of the best cattle and sheep in our market comes from that county.

Several other counties on both sides of the Mo. river also send large numbers of cattle to market, and we perceived that several farmers who have hitherto cultivated tobacco or hemp, are turning their attention to stock-raising. Sheep husbandry is also beginning to receive considerable attention, particularly in Cooper and Pettis counties. Mr. R. H. GENTRY, four miles from Georgetown, Pettis Co., has a flock of 2,500 merinos in fine condition, this years' clip of which he has yet unsold—having refused several offers which he considers too low for a grade of wool so fine as his. We rode through one of his pastures, consisting of 400 acres of cultivated prairie, well watered, and interspersed with several artificial groves, for protection from the hot sun of summer and the chilly winds of winter. Mr. Gentry has the largest flock in that county and probably in the State. His farm consists of some 2,000 acres and is in a high state of cultivation. *He is a book-farmer.* CHARLES McCORMICK, Esq., of Boonville, has a flock of the Cotswold sheep, selections from which brought high prices in this market last spring. The

mutton from these sheep is of an excellent quality, and although the wool is not so fine as the Merinos or Saxons, yet from the length of the fibre the fleeces are very heavy, and it is considered by many farmers that they are more profitable for the wool than the short-wool varieties—while for mutton they are altogether superior.

The soil and climate of the most of our State appears admirable adapted to this species of industry, and from present indications it is likely to be a very profitable business. The West is destined not only to be the granary of the world, but it also destined to furnish in a large degree the supplies for its shambles. In view of these things is it not imperative upon all concerned that every effort should be made to improve the breeds of our domestic animals? Here and there, on our journey, we met with some good animals; but, as a general thing, we found the stock of cattle and hogs very inferior—not any thing like as good probably, as it was five or ten years ago. The few farmers who have had fine animals, have followed up the ruinous 'in-and-in,' practice until they have completely run themselves 'out-and-out,' of any thing like decent animals. Now, then, it becomes us to urge the farmers to set about a general radical reform in this matter. One or two men in a county cannot accomplish any general good even if they were disposed. A general combined effort through county associations must be made. Inducements sufficient to prompt competent men to import choice breeding animals must be held out in every county, and the great mass of farmers must be taught the difference between a good animal and a poor one.

Hazel Ridge Farm.

This beautiful and highly cultivated tract of land, owned and tilled by Capt. J. T. Cleveland, is situated in Howard Co., five miles from Glasgow, on the Fayette and Huntsville road. It is offered for sale upon accommodating terms.

During our late tour through that section of the State we spent two or three days at this farm, and were most kindly treated by its hospitable owner, and his aimable family. We were highly pleased with the place, and hard-

ly imagine how its owner can reconcile himself to parting wit it *for any other situation*. Its fields are at this time heavy with the growing crops of cereal grains common to this State, hemp and the various grasses. The orchards are filled with bearing trees of almost every variety—now bending with their luscious fruits; the yard is interspersed with various growths of shrubbery and vines, and hedged, on three sides with gooseberry, pivot and lilac, and, on the front with a rosebush hedge of twenty-seven different varieties. The house is of brick in cottage fashion, large and commodious (40 by 80) with out buildings in abundance, and in their proper places. The large garden is in a high condition, and in the midst of it is the summer-house, composed of living sugar-trees (set out years since) the intertwining branches of which exclude the summer rays. Just the place for strawberries and cream, melons, &c.

The waters of Hazel Ridge are flush and fine, and its situation commanding, its air salubrious, while the remarkable hearty appearance of the large family which has been raised on the place, tells the story of its healthiness. The Glasgow and Huntsville Plank-road (now under contract) passes the gate.

We know of no more desirable location in the State for a country residence. Its proximity to the excellent schools at Glasgow and Fayette, commends it to such parents as would educate their children in a thorough manner, and at the same have them under their own roof, and removed from the temptations of large towns and cities.

The One Idea:

*Or the man that was a 'book-farmer,' and—
who 'was'nt any thing else.'*

My friend Optimus is a man of considerable notoriety. I had heard of him long before I knew him, and from the accounts which he had published of his success in following the books, I concluded that his farm must be another Eden; that here genius, and skill, and enterprise, and good taste, and industry, had combined their labors and produced a model farm and a model farmer. I had long heard of him as a contributor for the great 'Eastern Utopian,' and a zealous advocate for its cir-

culatation among the farmers in his neighborhood. He had often said, so I was told, that if the farmers wanted to know how to farm in the right way, they must send to Boston, or Albany, or New York, or Philadelphia, for some of the Eastern agricultural papers, conducted by men of science, learned professors, or noted chemists, and study and practice the directions there laid down. I will never do to heed the western papers—they did not know anything; he was for going to the fountain head for his knowledge.

Such were my feelings when circumstances led me into the neighborhood of this celebrated farmer, and it was with no little pleasure that I embraced the offer of a friend to jump into his buggy and ride over and see it. A ride of half an hour brought us to the place, my companion refraining from making any comments upon the appearance of Optimus' farm, in order as I supposed, that I might be taken by surprise. We drew up against a worm-fence, in front of an indifferent looking cabin, and my friend said, 'This is the place.' Climbing the fence, for there was no gate, climbing block, or bars, we entered the yard, a space of ground which retained all its natural features, except that the presence of the plantain, dog-fennel and 'jimson-weed' indicated the presence of civilization, we approached the cabin, and making our way over one of Allen's self-sharpening plows, and through a large wooden triangle used for obtaining land levels, we gained the front-door which was opened by the proprietor himself, who received us kindly, and entered into a free detail of his operations. Having told us his plan and mode of procedure he took us out to look at his lands. I learned from him and other sources a variety of facts which impressed me most forcibly.

The great difficulty with this man is that he does not give every thing its relative importance. He seems to be under the impression that *tools* is all that is wanted to make a complete farmer. Besides the big plow, before alluded to another similar one in his best room or parlor, and an universal cultivator which he pulled out from under his bed to show us, I counted some seven or eight other plows about the place, two or three subsoil, three or four cultivators, besides clod-crushers, harrows,

shovel plows, etc. innumerable; yet this man works but one man besides himself, and never has use for more than two plows. I saw no wagon on the place, and I doubt whether he has one. He showed us about an acre of corn which looked magnificently, but the rest of his fields was inferior, very; and he had a few strips of ground here and there which showed signs of superior treatment, but the rest of his lands bore no marks of particular attention. He had no garden, and paid no attention to fruit. His house was the poorest kind of a log cabin, and everything about the premises showed want of thrift or carefulness. He had raised last season about an acre of corn, which yielded wonderfully—considerably over 20 barrels to the acre, so he told us, but his neighbors said it cost him at least a dollar a bushel to grow it, while the balance of his crop was far below the average of his neighbors. He had ditched and subsoiled a small part of his grounds so as to make it look like a garden, while over the balance

"I saw the wild brier
The thorn and the thistle grow broader and higher."

I could not but think that here was indeed a 'one idea man,' who for want of having a well balanced mind, was working to poorer advantage than the bitterest opponent of all 'book-farming,' I had ever met with. Farmers must *think* as well as *read*. They must examine all things and hold fast to that which is good. It will never do in Missouri to follow the same course with a field of corn which when harvested will be worth but 25 cents per bushel, that it will do to follow in Massachusetts or New York where it will bring 80 cents or a dollar.

As we left the farm and away my friend told me that this man had done more to increase the prejudices of the people against 'book-farming,' as it is called, or the importance of a knowledge of the science of agriculture, than any other man in the county; and yet he was continually pleading and recommending agricultural books and newspapers to his brother farmers, and telling them what wonderful helps they were to him. And why was this? Because they could not but see by the course he pursued he was working to less advantage than themselves. Had he in the ex-

ercise of an intelligent discrimination adapted his plans and applied the knowledge gained from books and agricultural papers to the real condition of the land and market where his produce must be sold, and exercised economy as well as judgment in the purchase of tools, and put forth energy and industry to make his home delightful and comfortable, have expended his money to improve the general character of all his farm, instead of concentrating it on two or three acres, and upon this expending an amount of labor and material that no possible crop would repay—he would have done far better for himself, and far more to wean the people from their prejudices, and secure their favor to movements to improve the condition of agriculture.

After all, Mr. Editor, friend Optimus is but a type of a class of men who are to be found in all pursuits. 'One idea' men are to be found among the clergy, the lawyers, the medicine men—lots of them among the politicians, the school-teachers, the merchants and mechanics, and truth compels me also to say, among the Editors. But I must not rub too hard here or I may bring upon myself the charge of invidiousness toward a class of men who are doing so much to enlighten the gross darkness of the people.

AMINADAB.

Organization of County Agricultural Societies.

Our readers will find in our paper this month, sketches of the proceedings of the farmer's meetings in Boone and Howard counties. We attended both those meetings and were highly gratified at the enthusiasm and determination manifested. A spirit seemed to pervade both of them that it was time for the farmers to be up and doing, that too long we had been sleeping, but now is the time to throw off our lethargy and not only to *will* but to *do*. The address to the farmers of the State adopted by the meeting in Boone, and published in our pages this month should be carefully read by every man in the State, and not only should every man read it but he should seriously ask himself what is his duty in the premises. Boone county will hold a fair this fall, and from the spirit manifested by her energetic farmers we feel assured it will be no

mean affair. They have got the facilities, and they mean to use them.

Howard county is not so far advanced in her organization, and we do not know whether they will attempt a fair this fall, but they have got some noble hearted men there who are determined to put the thing through in the right way. They held their first meeting while we were with them, and were to meet to complete their organization on the first Monday of this month.

In Pettis county, also, a large and interesting meeting was held on the 16th of June which adjourned to some time in this month when they will meet again to complete the organization of the Pettis County Agricultural and Mechanical Association. We don't know when we have attended a more interesting meeting or where we could pick out a better county for an efficient and thorough Society.—Pettis county has the men, and her men have the disposition, and we set it down as our prophecy that this will be one of the best Societies in the State.

But what shall we say of Cooper? Have they organized a society there? We spent more time in Cooper county while we were away than any other county, and yet less was accomplished there than any where else, and why?—Because there was no man or men who could go right ahead and set the thing agoing. Every farmer we conversed with was anxious to have the movement made; they all acknowledged its importance, and yet all shrunk from the responsibility of making a start. Politics, too, engrossed the attention of all classes to such a degree that it was impossible to get the people to pay much attention to any thing else, and so it was finally concluded to let the matter rest till after the elections. But Cooper will come up to the work. There are no better farmers and stock-raisers in the State than are to be found in this county, and they will have a society, and we believe that as large a society could be organized in that county, as many go ahead, energetic men united in it as in any county in the State. Many men in the vicinity of Boonville wish to unite the objects of Horticulture with Agriculture in this movement and here we may say that in our opin-

ion they never should be separated. Every farmer should have as much ambition to have a fine garden and orchard, as to have fine horses or cattle; and take as much pains to raise apples and peaches, and grapes and pears and plums as to raise fat hogs or lusty sheep. Don't say it wont pay. We tell you it will pay. The comfort—the satisfaction—the enjoyment of these things will repay you four fold all it costs to raise them—to say nothing of the dollars and cents they will bring—or the importance so far as health is concerned, as articles of diet in your family.

We see that the Pike county papers are agitating the subject of a society in that county; and we hope they will keep up the agitation until some good comes of it. Glorious old Pike ought to be foremost in this work. With her rich soil, her wealthy farmers, her spirit of enterprise and energy she ought to lead off in advance of all the other counties, and set them a bright and glorious example.

In Marion county as we learn from a gentleman from Palmyra, a movement is progressing which will result in a society there. Similar movements are also agitating in St. Louis, St. Charles, Cole, Colloway, Lewis, and several other counties.

Industrial Convention.

The Convention, for the purpose of devising a plan for an Industrial College, met at the State House, in Springfield, on the 8th ult.

Dr. JOHN A. KENNICOTT, of Cook county, President.

T. J. LITTLE, of Fulton county, and JOSEPH MORRISON, of Morgan county, Vice Presidents.

W. H. POWELL, of Lasalle county, Secretary.

The Convention seems to have been attended by those opposed as well as by the friends of an Industrial University. The friends of the existing colleges, or some of them, were particularly hostile to the measure. They finally, however, after being voted down, seceded, a committee, consisting of J. B. Turner, T. J. Little, John Hise, Oaks Turner and Augustus Adams, was appointed to memorialize the present Legislature on a State Industrial University.

A committee of five was appointed to digest a better system of common schools, and to memorialize to next Legislature on the subject Messrs. Evans, Roe, Powell, Adams and Davis were appointed as the committee.

The Pip in Chickens.

WHITE Co., Ill., June 22, 1842.

MR. ABBOTT.—Please describe the pip in next number. I have heard there was such a disease in the South, destructive to fowls, but not so far north as this. T. J. P.

Gapes or *Pip* is a disease to which young fowls are peculiarly liable, particularly in hot weather, and owing to drinking unwholesome or dirty water, and feeding on hot exciting food. The symptoms are a thickening of the membranes of the tongue, especially towards its tip. This impedes breathing, produces gasping for breath and causes the beak to stretch open. The plumage becomes ruffled and neglected; the appetite disappears, and the bird mopes pining about, seeking solitude and darkness.

Treatment.—Remove the white blister on the tip of the tongue, and wash with sharp vinegar, diluted with warm water; or compel them to swallow a large lump of fresh butter mixed with Scotch snuff. It has been cured by opening the mouth and forcing a pigeon feather, with a tuft of the feather left on the end, down the wind pipe, and gently turning it as withdrawn, to be repeated daily as often as necessary. This detaches large numbers of a large red worm, collected in the larynx of the throat which impedes respiration and swallowing.

A little spirits of turpentine mixed with the food is a preventive, as is also clean, white-washed premises and good food. After an attack, feed for a few days with light food, soaked bran, or lettuce chopped fine.

Mr. Morris' Sale of Improved Stock.

This sale took place on the 6th of June, and we learn was well attended, though we regret to see that there are so few western names among the purchasers. Our western stock-raisers will do well to attend these great sales if they wish to procure pure stock, and it is to their interest to procure such every one admits. Through the influence of the different county societies which are springing up in this and other Western States, we hope to see a different state of things brought about, and that at future sales large purchases will be made for the Valley of the Mississippi.

The highest price paid at this sale for any

animal was \$270 for the Short-Horned Bull Eryholme, 2d, calved Sept. 1851, and purchased by J. D. Thorp, Rennsalaer Co., N. Y.

The highest price paid for any cow was \$130 for the Short Horn Cow, Miss Spencer, 9 years old, bought by B. Johnson, Long Island, N. Y.

The Ayrshire cow Rose, 4 years old was sold to W. Frimston, Easton, Pa., for \$125. We append a list of

AVERAGE PRICES.

<i>Short Horn Cows.</i>		
7 in No. \$84 28, per head,		\$590 00
<i>Heifers.</i>		
2 in No. \$82 50, per head,		165 00
<i>Heifer Calves.</i>		
4 in No. \$87 50, per head,		350 00
'Lamartine' let for one season,		200 00
1 Short Horned Bull,		180 00
<i>Bull Calves.</i>		
7 in No. \$105 per head,		735 00
		<hr/> \$2,220 00
[21 Head of Short Horns averaged \$105 71 1-2, of which 6 were pure white 4 were from 10 to 17 years old, and 3 under two months.]		
<i>Devons.</i>		
1 Heifer and 3 calves \$53 75 per head,		215 00
<i>Ayrshires.</i>		
19 in No. \$64 07, per head,		\$1,217, 50
<i>Swine.</i>		
39 in No. \$11, 56 1-2 each,		\$639 50
<i>Sheep.</i>		
3 Bucks let for one season,		\$112 50
11 Head sold, \$14 22 per head,		135 50
Total,		<hr/> \$4,561

MOUNT FORDHAM, June 14, 1862.

EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Esq.,—Dear Sir:—I forward by this mail a marked Catalogue of my 3d 'Annual Sale on the 9th,' containing names and residences of the purchasers. I feel satisfied with the result when I consider the age, and colors of many of the Short Horns; and also that no effort on my part was made, through my friends, or otherwise, to inflate the prices; the result therefore is the true statement of the actual purchasing community. The result is a fair one as to price, but most certainly not high, which I do not wish to make it, as I want to hold out an inducement for persons to attend my sales hereafter, as I

have as yet merely started. I also accompanied with my sale, an exhibition or show of my reserved breeding stock, with the exception of Southdown Sheep, which are 50 miles on Long Island, on account of depredation by dogs. I also have a few blood brood mares, which I am breeding to 'I rustees,' which were not seen.

Yours respectfully,

L. G. MORRIS.

Correspondence the Valley Farmer.

WHITE COUNTY, Ills., June 23d, 1852

SIR:—The potato rot has ever caused me a series of thoughts. I have read everything which came in my way on that interesting subject hoping to hear of some preventive. In this part of Illinois, (Middle Egypt.) We are generally the poorest farmers you ever saw. We use little or no manure. We never have had an instance of rot to my knowledge. Would it not be well for some one to try without manuring in some section where this malady prevails?

There are a good many also in this section who think they know more about farming than they really do, and say to me, you had better watch or you will be sucked up by the Valley Farmer, it will not do to follow agricultural papers in this Country, still I think in stead of four numbers of the Farmer, I will be able to send a Christmas present of 15.

Our small grain except grass, which was mostly destroyed by the worms, looks promising. Corn crops are rather indifferent and very small owing to the wet backward spring.

I will rejoice to see to see the day come when pride and ambition will arouse the citizens in this and the adjoining counties to feel and act in the establishment of agricultural societies.

P.

For the Valley Farmer

Hints.

MR. EDITOR:—I avail myself of your general invitation to call the attention of the readers of the Farmer to the following suggestions:

1. Write your name in your books, public documents, papers and pamphlets. Most of them cost you *cash*, and many of you know what a propensity books have for 'straying off' from their rightful owner; hence the necessity of having your names on them by which means

they are more easily recognized, and you will have two chances to get them again, where you had not but one if not so marked.

2. Have your name, or the initials cut or engraved on your umbrellas, knives, saddles, bridals, and blankets, your planes, drawing knives, saws, chizels, and other tools, the sacks you send to mill. Also, let gentlemen and ladies have their names on their hats, bonnets; handchiefs, &c.

3. Mark your cattle, hogs and sheep, brand your horses and mules with the initials of your name. In short, have your name on any and every thing you may have that cannot be readily identified. Need I adduce arguments to convince you of the advantage of so doing? Who has not lost a book, an umbrella, a saddle, a blanket, a bridle, a handkerchief, or something else of more value, (perhaps a horse or mule,) by not attending to these small matters. I add no more. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Respectfully,

SOL. D. CARUTHERS.

Frederickstown, Mo.

ST. LOUIS PREMIUM TOBACCO SALES.

The annual sales of premium tobacco, the growth of the State of Missouri, at the Planters' Warehouse, came off June 17, in the presence of a large number of dealers. The brake comprised 45 hogsheds said to be the finest ever offered in this market.

Messrs. P. G. Camden, George F. Hill, and John F. Rust, were appointed a committee to award the shipping premiums of forty and twenty dollars to the first and second shipping hds, and, after a careful inspection, awarded both to S. E. Bibb, of Franklin county.

These hogsheds were afterwards purchased by B. W. Lewis & Bros. together with seven additional hogsheds of the finest qualities of manufacturing tobacco at prices ranging from \$11 to \$21 15 per 100 lbs.

In addition to the Warehouse awards of \$40 and \$20 to the growers of the first and second premium shipping hogsheds, Col. F. P. Chiles the seller of both, with commendable liberality gave to the purchaser silver cups to the value of thirty and twenty dollars each. B. W. Lewis & Bros., Glasgow, purchased both hogsheds, and will receive both cups.

A Boone County Farmer.

In returning from Columbia to Rocheport, we rode several miles, in the rain, to redeem a promise to stop and dine with Mr. M. P. Lintz. After dinner (the rain having ceased) we took a short ride over the farm, and on returning to the house we found an old gentleman, who, judging by his unshaven face and coarse blanket coat, we took to be a neighboring farmer who had come in on some errand. At first sight he appeared a little drowsy or stupid, but after putting into his mouth a pretty large 'quid' of one of our great staples, he revived wonderfully and we had a very interesting conversation with him, during the little time we had to stay ere we started on our journey.

He told us that he had been a practicing physician in Missouri for twenty years, but that being devotedly attached to Agriculture, he had given great attention to that subject, and has at this time the best farm in the county, which he urgently invited us to visit. But as our time was limited we were compelled to decline.

He had just returned from a trip to Kentucky where had purchased of the Shakers, near Harrodsburg, five head of as fine cattle as can be found in the country. They consist of a bull, and four heifers, and he is taking them home for the improvement of the breed of cattle in his own neighborhood. Every one knows that the Shakers are proverbial for their sleek, well fed horses and cattle, and if there is any good stock in the country it will usually be found among them. We believe also that the blood of their stock can be relied on, and purchasers buying of them may rely upon getting what they bargain for. This addition to our friend's herd of *four hundred head* of select cattle, will be a great benefit to the stock raisers of that region, and if others will copy his example and import choice animals, so that by exchange of pure blood breeders a constant supply may be kept up without resorting to the 'in-and-in' system, Boone county will soon become as its good stock as the whole State famous for its race of scrubs.

The soil and climate of the whole of Missouri is peculiarly adapted to the business of stock-raising, and if the labor which has been Crown away during the last twenty years in

the culture of tobacco and kindred crops had been devoted to the breeding of the best blooded horses, mules; cattle and sheep, to say nothing of swine, that State would have been at least ten years in advance of its present condition.

We presume Dr. McClure—that's the man—will exhibit some of his stock at the Boone County Fair this fall, and we hope that a good many others of the farmers of that rich county will imitate his example.

Vineries at Boonville.

Until our visit to Boonville we were not aware that so much attention was paid to the culture of the grape in that vicinity. Almost every person has more or less vines, and there are a number of persons who have several acres. We called upon Mr. Haas, who has about six or eight acres, and promised by the way, to visit him again before we returned; but found it inconvenient to keep our promise. He told us he expected to manufacture from 1,200 to 1,500 gallons of wine this fall. Hon. J. G. Miller, Member of Congress from that district has also several acres which we saw as we rode by his house. Mr. Miller has a delightful residence some two miles south-west from Boonville, and we learned pays much attention to horticultural and agricultural pursuits. Mr. Simpson, Editor of the Observer, has some very thrifty vines at his snug little domicile, where—in the midst of choice fruit and beautiful and fragrant flowers, he nestles in his *bachelor's home*. Such a rural retreat ought not to be without 'heaven's last best gift! Mr. S. informs us that there are many excellent grapes growing wild in Southwestern Missouri, which if cultivated he had no doubt would be hardier and produce as good if not better fruit than any of the cultivated varieties—not excepting even the Catawba. But these vines are being annually killed out. An efficient State Society or Board of Agriculture would bring these varieties into notice, and no doubt add largely to our list of cultivated grapes.

Mr. J. H. Myers has about two acres of Catawba and Isabella grapes; and of this vineyard we must say it was in the best order of any we have ever visited. Though only in its third year many of the vines have formed clus-

ters of grapes, and the whole were in a very thriving condition. We received invitations to visit several other farms where there were larger or smaller lots of vines, but did not find it convenient to do so. The people here do not complain much of the rot, and those who have had much experience in the business consider it very profitable.

Large portions of the State of Missouri, are admirably adapted to the growth of the grape, and the day is not distant when this article will form an important part of our exports. With ordinary success it must be immensely more profitable than any of the field crops, and we recommend every family to begin at least and raise a few just for the comfort of them if for no other reason.

NEW BOOKS.

Rural Architecture; being a complete description of Farm Houses, Cottages, and out buildings, comprising wood houses, workshop, tool houses, carriage and wagon houses, stables, smoke and ash houses, ice houses, apiary or bee house, poultry houses, rabbitry, dove-cote, piggery, barns and sheds for cattle, &c.; together with lawns, pleasure grounds and parks; the flower, fruit and vegetable garden. Also, useful and ornamental domestic animals for the country resident, &c. Also, the best method of conducting water into cattle yards and houses. By L. F. Allen. Beautiful illustrated. New York, C. M. Saxton, Agricultural Book Publisher.

The Farmer at Home; being a Cyclopædia of the more important topics in Modern Agriculture, and natural and domestic economy; adapted to Rural life. By Rev. John L. Blake, D. D. Author of Farmer's Every Day Book; Agriculture for Schools; The Farm and Fireside; Family Encyclopædia, and General Biographical Dictionary. New York, C. M. Saxton, Agricultural Book Publisher.

The publisher of these works will accept our thanks for these two works, which constitute a very important addition to our agricultural library. Mr. Allen's work is a book from which every farmer who designs improving his farm will gain much valuable information, and it is furthermore written in such beautiful style as to captivate while it instructs. We shall publish largely from its pages in subsequent numbers. Dr. Blake's 'Family Text-book for the Country,' contains information

on every topic which interests the farmer; the whole compiled with great care. These books are for sale in this city by Plant & Salisbury, corner Fourth and Green streets.

SEXTON'S RURAL HAND BOOKS.—We have received from the publishers, through Messrs. Plant & Salisbury, who have all of Mr. Saxton's Agricultural books for sale, copies of several of the popular treatises in the series of 'Hand Books,' as they are termed. The list comprises

Horses; their Varieties, Breeding and Management, in Health and Disease. By H. D. Richardson.

Hogs; their origin and varieties, management with a view to profit, and treatment of disease. By H. D. Richardson.

Bees; the hive and honey bee; with plain directions for obtaining a considerable annual income from this branch of rural economy. By H. D. Richardson.

Pests of the Farm; with instructions for their extirpation. By H. D. Richardson.

Domestic Fowl; their natural history, breeding, rearing, &c. Revised and improved. By H. D. Richardson.

Browne's American Bird Fancier; considered in reference to the rearing, feeding and management of Cage and House Birds.

Dana's Prize Essay on Manures; an essay on manures, submitted to the trustees of the Massachusetts Society for promoting agriculture, for their premium.

Chemistry made easy; for Farmers. By Topham.

Elements of Agriculture; for the use of Primary and Secondary schools.

The American Rose Culturist; being a practical treatise on the propagation, cultivation and management of the rose in all seasons. With a list a choice and improved varieties, adapted to the United States. Also, directions for treating the Dahlia.

These books are sold at 30 cents each, they are written in a plain, familiar style and will be found of great benefit to the farmers.

HINTS.—We invite particular attention to the advertisement of Messrs. Holmes and Foster in this paper. We believe they are well qualified to fulfil their engagements and give good satisfaction to the farmers.

THE NAPOLEON FAMILY.—See advertisement of an interesting work which is soon to be issued by a publishing house in New York.

ROSE BUGS.

Editor of Valley Farmer:

Do you know anything of the 'varmints' I send enclosed. Do you know their name, origin or destiny. They appeared here between the 7th and 10th of June in countless myriads, we call them rose bugs because they are death on roses. They are entirely destroying all our grapes, raspberry and plum trees--bushes vines and all. Can you tell of a preventive or cure.

Rock River.

June 11, 1852.

We have heard of the 'little joker' for some time and the mischief he is doing all over the country. In the 'Pests or the Farm,' by H. D. Richardson, which constitutes one of Sexton's series of 'Rural Hand Books,' he is thus described:

ROSE BUGS.—For some time after they were first noticed, rose-bugs appeared to be confined to their favorite, the blossoms of the rose; but within thirty years they have prodigiously increased in number, have attacked at random various kinds of plants in swarms, and have become notorious for their extensive and deplorable ravages. The grape-vine in particular, the cherry, plum, and apple trees, have annually suffered by their depredations; many other fruit-trees and shrubs, garden vegetables and corn, and even the trees of the forest and the grass of the fields, have been laid under contribution by these indiscriminate feeders, by whom leaves, flowers, and fruits are alike consumed. They come forth from the ground during the second week in June, and remain from thirty to forty days. At the end of this period the males become exhausted, fall to the ground, and perish, while the females enter the earth, lay their eggs, return to the surface, and, after lingering a few days, die also. The eggs laid by each female are about thirty in number, and are deposited from one to four inches beneath the surface of the soil; they are nearly globular, whitish and about one-thirtieth of an inch in diameter, and are hatched about twenty days after they are laid. The young larvæ begin to feed on such tender roots as are within their reach. When not eating, they lie upon the side, with the body curved so that the head and tail are nearly in contact; they move with difficulty on a level surface, and are continually falling over on one side or the other. They attain their full size in the autumn, being three-quarters of an inch long, and about an eighth of an inch in diameter. They are a yellow white color, with a tinge of blue towards the hinder extremity, which is thick and obtuse or rounded; a few short hairs are scattered on the surface of the body; there are six short legs, namely, a pair to each of the

first three rings behind the head; and the latter is covered with a horny shell of a pale rust color. In October they descend below the reach of frost, and pass the winter in a torpid state. In the spring they approach towards the surface, and each one forms for himself a little cell of an oval shape, by turning round a great many times, so as to compress the earth and render the inside of the cavity hard and smooth. Within this cell the grub is transformed to a pupa, during the month of May, by casting off its skin, which is pushed downwards in folds from the head to the tail. The pupa has somewhat the form of the perfected beetle; but it is of a yellowish white color, and its short-stump like wings, its antennæ, and its legs folded upon the breast; and its whole body enclosed in a thin film, that wraps each part separately. During the month of June this film skin is rent, the included beetle withdraws from it its body and its limbs, bursts open its earthen cell, and digs its way to the surface of the ground. Thus the various changes, from the egg to the full development of the perfected beetle, are completed within the space of one year.

Such being the metamorphoses and habits of these insects, it is evident that we cannot attack them in the egg, the grub, or the pupa state; the enemy in these stages is beyond our reach. When they appear as bugs they must be crushed, scalded, or burned, to deprive them of life, for they are not affected by any of the applications usually found destructive to other insects. Experience has proved the utility of gathering them by hand, or of shaking them or brushing them from the plants into tin vessels containing a little water. They should be collected daily during the period of their visitation, and should be committed to the flames, or killed by scalding water.

Our insect-eating birds undoubtedly devour many of these insects, and deserve to be cherished and protected for their services. Rose-bugs are also eaten greedily by domesticated fowls; and when they become exhausted and fall to the ground, or when they are about to lay their eggs, they are destroyed by moles, insects, and other animals, which lie in wait to seize them.

SORE TEATS IN COWS.—As many of our farmers suffer severely annually, by swollen udders and teats in their milch cows, the following is a cheap, simple and most sure remedy.

Take the bark of the root of the shrub commonly called bitter sweet, wash and simmer it with a quantity of lard, until it is very yellow, and when cool, apply it to the parts that are swollen, two or three times a day, until the udder and teats are perfectly soft and free from kernels. It has been tried with great success in this vicinity.

Editorial Correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

ROCHEPORT, Mo., June 8. 1852.

As our readers may, perchance like to know something of our wanderings in the interior of Missouri, we will give a little account of our progress, thus far.

We left St. Louis Tuesday evening, June 1, on that paragon of Missouri river packets, the Martha Jewett, commanded by our old friend Capt. W. C. Jewett, and were landed at this place on Thursday evening, after a remarkably comfortable passage of about 48 hours, the boat having large quantities of freight to discharge at different landings, along on the way, was delayed several hours, but after all made the trip as quick as most of the boats which make few or no stoppages. Capt. Jewett has our sincere thanks for his kindness and attention on our voyage, and we can safely recommend his boat to all travelers. On our way up we just dropped in to see friend McCracken of the Metropolitan, at Jefferson city, and to make a few fruitless enquiries about the Baltimore Convention. Mac. wanted us to stop and see the Cole Co. farmers, but we were posted ahead and could not stop. We could only say 'another time,' and jump aboard the boat.

On Friday we recruited a little, received the visits of some of our well wishers, among the rest our interesting young friend, Elgin, who came here to see us, and the next day rode to Columbia to hear us, and yesterday went to Fayette to prepare for us. His kindness will not soon be forgotten.

Saturday morning we rode to Columbia, and in the afternoon attended the meeting of the Boone County Agricultural and Mechanical Society, and had the privilege of addressing a large assembly at the Court House, upon the importance of improvements in Agriculture, and the benefits of State and County Societies. We found many warm friends here, and regretted that our engagements did not allow us to remain longer with them. We trust we shall be able to pay this county another visit, and spend some time with those kind friends whose proffered hospitality we were compelled to decline.

There is some good stock in Boone County, and under the influences of the former agricul-

tural society its stock ranked very high, but as the society declined so did the stock. We hope great things, however, from the efficient and promising society which has just been organized. Its officers are the right kind of men; and there is a very considerable spirit diffused through the County in favor of the good work. We found the crops of wheat poor, generally, through we passed one good field, belonging to Mr. Ishmael Van Horn, who we understand raises the best wheat in the county. He sows early, rolls his land—and his wheat does not winter-kill. On the farm of Mr. Leintz we saw a field of twenty-five acres of rye, which Mr. L. assured us was pastured until the tenth of May, at which time it was eaten off close to the ground. When we saw it on the seventh of June, much of it stood six feet high, and the whole field would average five feet. Mr. L. calculates upon twenty-five bushels to the acre, and thinks the pasturing of that field saved him the feeding of 100 barrels of corn. Why not grow more rye? Mr. L. has an excellent garden from which he obtains every variety of fruit and vegetables. In the midst of it is a large pecan tree, from which he has gathered many bushels of nuts, the seed of which he planted twelve years ago. Plant trees.

At Mr. Leintz' we made the acquaintance of Dr. W. McClure, who we were told had the best farm in the county. He had just returned from Kentucky with some choice heifers and a male for the improvement of his stock. We regretted our inability to pay a visit to his farm.

Agricultural and Mechanical Society.

Pursuant to notice an adjourned meeting was held in the Court House in Columbia, Boone county, Mo., on Saturday, June 5th, for the purpose of organizing an Agricultural and Mechanical Society. Maj. JAMES S. ROLINS acted as President; W. F. SWITZLER, as Secretary.

Wm. F. SWITZLER, from the Committee appointed at a previous meeting, and charged with the duty, reported a Constitution and By-Laws for the government of the Society, which, after being read, was adopted, and will hereafter be published.

Mr. Abbott, editor of the St. Louis Valley Farmer, being present, was called upon to ad-

dress the meeting. Coming forward he was introduced by the President and proceeded to deliver a highly interesting and able address, appropriate to the occasion.

Prof. Swallow, from a Committee to prepare an Address to the people of the State, reported the following

ADDRESS.

MR. PRESIDENT:—Your Committee, to whom was referred the preparation of an Address to the Farmers and Mechanics of Missouri, have attended to that duty, and would report the following for your consideration:

To the Farmers and Mechanics of Missouri:

FELLOW CITIZENS:—To you who have with us a common interest in all that can promote our success and secure the prosperity of our professions, we appeal for your sympathy, for your aid and co-operation, in our efforts to place the Agricultural and Mechanical Arts of Missouri in that pre-eminence they so eminently deserve. While the practical deductions of science have given a new impulse, infused new life and energy into almost every department of human industry, we are cultivating our farms as did our sires and grandsires before us. While by the applications of science Watt and Fulton have given us steamships to spurn the winds and stem the rolling currents of our mighty rivers, while the steam-horse is puffing his way along the iron track to our rich prairies, while the lightning speeds to us the last changes in stocks and merchandise, and every move upon the political chess-board, while, in short, progress is stamped upon every thing, the farmer and mechanic are plodding on 'in the good old way of our fathers.' The result is, we, in this land of mighty forests, are importing and paying three prices for our lumber. Our houses, plank roads, and fences cost twice their usual prices. We go east for our agricultural and mechanical implements of every grade, from the plow to the butter stamp. With iron mountains and inexhaustible coal beds, we import every article of iron from the anvil to the ten-penny nail. Our mineral veins contain nearly every paint from the costly smalt blue to the yellow ochre; and yet all we use, with a single exception, comes from a foreign market. While we are exhausting the virgin wealth of the richest soil the sun shines upon, our crops are no better than those harvested from the once barren hills of New England; and inferior races of stock crop our luxuriant prairies.

But you may say, 'we are doing very well as we are.' Perhaps 'we are doing well enough'; yet, if we listen to that syren song, we may be aroused from our pleasant dreams to the humiliating reality that our neighbors with fewer natural advantages are reaping

richer harvests and supplying our markets with their domestic manufactures.

While our mothers were doing *well enough* with their distaff and hand-loom, and paying six bits for cottons, the factory girl with her power-loom supplied the same article for one-tenth the price. While our fathers were doing *well enough* shut up between the Atlantic and the Alleghenies, the restless energy of that daring spirit whose name our county bears crossed those mountains, penetrated these boundless forests, and opened the vast resources of this mighty valley. While the planters of Virginia were doing *well enough*, many of them were surprised to find their soils exhausted and unproductive. Many are doing *well enough* with mule wagons and mud roads; but the steam-horse with his iron sinews proclaims their thriftless folly. While the jolly flat boatman was doing *almost too well*, the steam whistle startled him from his easy jollity, and gave a ten-fold energy to the commerce of our western rivers. When perfection is reached, then, and not till then, will it be safe to 'let well enough alone.'

The divine economy wisely provides that we shall eat our bread by the sweat of the brow; yet no divine or human wisdom demands that we shall toil and sweat, and sweat and toil on from year to year, simply for the corn cake and bacon our appetites demand. We believe we can do better—that we can become better farmers and better mechanics; and like true Anglo-Saxons we repudiate the idea that any thing is *well enough*, which can be bettered.

We therefore unfurl the banners of our professions also inscribed with the glorious motto, PROGRESS.

In our efforts we ask the sympathy and aid of every profession. We do not ask others to labor for our benefit only, but for theirs also. We are the great heart of the body politic; if its pulsations are languid, the life blood will flow feebly in every department of human industry. We do not ask it as a favor; we demand it as a debt of long standing, one so just that all have frankly confessed the obligation whenever and wherever its claims have been presented.

Since man was driven from Eden we have fed and clothed the world; we have built its dwellings and filled them with plenty and luxury; we have raised the mettlesome steed, constructed the iron horse, and launched the merchantman and the steamship upon the trackless ocean; we have been freely taxed for the support of public schools, and have contributed liberally for the endowment of colleges and universities, for the education of physicians and clergymen, lawyers and gentlemen; and yet we look in vain for a school where the science of agriculture is practically taught.

This we contend is wrong; and as the guar-

dians of our children's inheritance, as the lovers of our common country, we have resolved to do our duty in remedying the evil, that we, who have so freely aided others, will make one manly effort to aid ourselves. Since our charities have not commenced at home, let them at least cheer our own firesides in their round of visitations.

We propose to accomplish the following objects:

1st. To Improve our Stock of Domestic Animals.

That better stock can be obtained than what we now possess no one will doubt; and that good animals are more profitable than poor ones is equally evident. It costs but little more to raise a horse worth two hundred dollars than it does one worth half that sum. A cow that milks twenty quarts eats but little more than one which milks only ten. And the same principle holds good respecting every class of animals from the noble horse to the farm-yard fowl. Here then by a little outlay and a generous co-operation we can greatly increase the pleasure and income derived from our domestic animals.

2d. To introduce the best varieties of our Staple crops.

Farmers often cultivate an inferior variety, when a little effort would provide such seed as would secure a better crop without any additional labor or expense of cultivation. All such increase would be net profit; and, though it amount to only a few dimes per acre, it would yield no mean sum continued through an ordinary life.

Again, it is a law of all vegetables improved by cultivation, whether grain, roots, or fruit; that they degenerate by a constant cultivation in the same locality; but that a change of culture or locality will often improve them in both quality and quantity. Hence sound reason dictates a judicious introduction of new varieties, or the same from some distant locality, or one different in soil or culture.

3d. To introduce improved Agricultural and Mechanical Implements.

If one man with a threshing or a planing machine can do better and more work than five, it will need no argument to prove the advantages to be derived from the introduction of these implements together with the Reaping Machine and Steam Saw-mill with its gang saws.

4th. To introduce improved modes of culture.

We will mention a single illustration only from the many which might be adduced. An excess of rain often retards the operations of the farmer much to his own inconvenience and the detriment of his crops; while a scar-

city of wet often proves equally destructive to the product of the field. But a judicious system of subsoiling and ditching will most effectually counteract these evils. That subsoiling and ditching are efficient antidotes to both an excess and dearth of rain may well be called the Agricultural Paradox; and yet both Philosophy and experience amply sustain the proposition. They are also most efficient means of promoting and sustaining the productive energies of the soil.

5th. To introduce new staples for cultivation.

The expenses of transportation greatly reduce the profits of our farms. This evil would be obviated by the culture of such staples as would find a market nearer, or such as would be less in weight and bulk, thus decreasing the cost of exportation. Indigo and opium would meet both these conditions. The home consumption of them is not small; and the product of an acre would weigh but a few pounds only, and its transportation to a domestic or foreign market would be at least ninety-nine per cent. less than corn or wheat. If, in Europe these staples are more profitable than corn at five dollars per barrel, they most certainly would be with us where corn is much cheaper, and the climate and the poorest soils are as well adapted to their culture.

6th. To introduce such a system of culture as will prevent that exhaustion of the soil which has proved so disastrous in some of the older States.

Some in their mad zeal have declared this exhaustion of soil a peculiar result of slave labor. But until they prove the sweat of the African less fertilizing than that of the Caucasian, we will seek the causes in the modes of culture, and apply the remedies indicated by agricultural science.

7th. To induce our State to provide a School, or an adjunct to some School where our sons may be thoroughly and practically taught all those Sciences which pertain to the Agricultural and Mechanical Arts.

It may be said we have good Schools now. This is true; and it is doubtless true that the branches provided for are as well taught as their means will permit, and that they answer all the purposes of the learned professions. But something should be done for our professions. We wish them so educated that they can bring all the treasures of science to the improvements of the farm and the workshop.

Our sons are taught to trace the root of a word up through the French, Italian, Latin, Greek and Sanscrit, to discover its true meaning. But who of them can trace the root of potato beneath the soil and discover the food it seeks there? They can discourse learnedly

upon the feet and caesuras of the Greek Hexameter, and sing

'Tityre tu patu—'

with all the sweet elegance of a Virgil. But they have scarcely dreamed that fixed laws govern the development of animal and vegetable structure. They are left in stupid ignorance of the glorious miracles of the organic world—the life-giving flow of the sap,—the pulsations of the life-blood, and the telegraphic connection of the mind, nerve, and muscle. They can measure the height of a lunar mountain, and decompose the nebulae of the Milky-way; yet their science would be at fault in removing a mole-hill, or in compounding a cement to pave a foot-path. They are carefully taught all the rules which govern the acquisition of wealth; yet they might live and die upon the richest mineral beds as ignorant of their presence and value as the bears of California.

Such a state of things is wrong. We contend that the Natural Sciences, those practical deductions of all the experience of preceding generations, can be so taught as to benefit our professions more than any others. Farmers and Mechanics have lived as long, and have made as many useful discoveries as Lawyers and Physicians; and the result of their experience embodied in the Natural Sciences can be made as accessible to the pupil as the principles of law or medicine. The experience of Archimedes and Cincinnatus is as valuable to us as that of Lycurgus and Aesculapius to those learned professions. Liebig and Cuvier have done as much for the Agricultural and Mechanical Arts as Blackstone and Hunter for Law and Medicine.

We therefore ask for the adoption of such measures as will enable our sons to obtain a practical knowledge of all those sciences which pertain to Agriculture, Mechanics and Mining. We seek the adoption of no Utopian theory, no doubtful experiment. The matter has been tested and the results have proved most beneficial to the hands and pockets of those interested. That scientific agriculture can make the desert bloom like a garden has been too often demonstrated by experiment to need support at this late day. Many an acre once barren on the sandy shores of Maryland and Long Island, and among the stony hills of New England annually yield their rich harvests, a golden tribute to science. Lavoisier, the distinguished French chemist, was one among the first to apply his science to agriculture. His experiments were made upon his own domain of 400 acres; and on the second year the products of his estate were doubled, and the profits quadrupled. That and similar results produced a general movement in favor of scientific agriculture. Nearly all the governments of Europe established agricultural schools

whose beneficial effects have been so obvious that they have been increased in number and facilities truly surprising. France has seventy-five agricultural colleges and schools, Russia sixty-eight, Belgium one-hundred, and all the States of Europe about four hundred.

The kingdom Prussia like Missouri, is essentially an Agricultural and Mining State. It has a system of public schools so general, so thorough and so practical in its applications to the business of life, as to command the admiration of all enlightened nations. Among the established schools of this system there are six Agricultural Colleges, ten Agricultural Schools of inferior grade, seven devoted to flax culture alone, two to the management of meadow lands, one to sheep culture, and forty-five model farms for educational purposes. These schools, and particularly the first six are provided with every means of education, and their professors are among the first scientific men of Germany. Such are the means, in all seventy-one establishments, provided by the Government of Prussia for an agricultural education. So much has been done by a monarchy not twice as large as Missouri, with a population of fifteen millions; yet proud America, with her vast domain, and boasted education, has not a single agricultural school worthy of the name. That the effects of this vast outlay has been beneficial to Europe we can well judge from the facts that new schools are being built on the most liberal basis, that Prussia has been changed from the most barren to one of the most fertile States of the world, and that the agricultural products of Europe have been doubled under its happy influences.

If the Emperor of Russia for one only of his sixty-eight agricultural schools, can profitably appropriate three thousand acres of land, build upon it forty college buildings, and annually educate several thousand students—if France can spend six hundred thousand dollars annually for instruction in only three of her schools—if Prussia can with profit invest millions in agricultural schools, cannot Missouri invest a few thousands, with equal chances of success? There is scarcely a doubt that a small sum judiciously expended in developing and publishing the agricultural and mineral resources of our State would be repaid a thousand fold by the consequent increase of population and wealth.

It may be said that these comparisons disparage the merits of our prosperous land; yet a healthy and national pride would lead us to place our industrial arts, not merely in a position equal to those of other countries, but in one commensurate with our superior advantages. Egypt has a fame as imperishable as her pyramids; and yet the proudest page of her history is that which proclaims her the gran-

ary of the world. When America gave the world a telegraph—when her mechanics and sculptors bore away the prizes of a World's Fair—when her steamships surpassed all competition, and her clippers commanded the commerce of India and the Queen of the Ocean—those are proud days in her history; yet the era most cherished in the American heart is that which opened our full storehouse to feed the starving millions of the far off Fatherland. But there is a brighter future before us. When the sturdy mechanic and the hardy yeoman shall be prepared to appropriate all the principles and discoveries of science to their peculiar arts; when science shall have wooed and won the industrial arts, and they shall have spent their honeymoon in the busy mart and the blooming field; then, and not till then, shall happy America realize her high destiny.

G. C. SWALLOW,
E. C. DAVIS,
PRICE R. PARKS,
JOHN MACHIR,
T. M. ALLEN.

The following resolutions were also reported by Prof. Swallow, from the Committee on the Address, which, on motion of A. W. Turner, Esq., were adopted:

Resolved, That we invite the citizens of Missouri to join us in petitioning the Legislature for 'material aid' in carrying out the object specified in our address.

Resolved, That a committee of six be appointed to draw up a form for our petitions, to distribute them through the State, and to advocate our cause before the Committee of the Legislature, to which such petitions may be referred.

The President announced the following Committee, in pursuance of second resolution, viz: Warren Woodson, Jas. McConathy, Robt. S. Barr, A. W. Turner, T. M. Allen, S. A. Young. On motion of Mr. Jenkins, James S. Rollins was added to the committee.

On motion of Mr. J. A. Boulton, a committee of three were appointed by the President, to contract for the printing of the Constitution and By-Laws in pamphlet form. Committee: J. A. Boulton, N. W. Wilson, A. C. Wilson.

The meeting, on motion of Mr. Jenkins, proceeded to elect officers of the Society, whereupon the following were chosen:

James S. Rollins, President.
Theodore Jenkins, John H. Field, Vice Presidents.
N. W. Wilson, Treasurer.
E. C. Davis, Rec. Secretary.
W. F. Switzler, Cor. Secretary.
A. W. Turner, D. H. Hickman, John Machir, A. O. Forshey, A. C. Wilson, J. H. Mc

Neil, J. A. Boulton, W. G. Singleton, Geo. W. Gordon, T. M. Allen, Directors.

On motion of Col. Young it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to Mr. E. Abbott, editor of the St. Louis Valley Farmer, for his able and instructive address to them today; and that the Secretary be instructed to request a copy of it for publication.

On motion of F. W. Switzler, it was

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting, including the constitution and by-laws, addresses to the people of the State, be published in the Statesman and Sentinel, and that the editors of the Valley Farmer, Western Journal, and other papers in the State be requested to copy.

Adjourned to first Tuesday in August.

J. S. ROLLINS, President.

W. F. SWITZLER, Secretary.

From the Western Journal.

Culture of Hemp.

With soil peculiarly adapted to the growth of this staple, there are many parts of the Western States that, throwing aside the cultivation of all other agricultural productions, as a source of profit, might thrive and accumulate wealth to an independent extent, by the sole production of this indispensable article of a civilized commercial and moral people. But the idea that a farmer must produce a little of every thing to be a farmer—that he must grow, to some extent, every product of the earth, that is necessary for the consumption of his own family or neighborhood—has, hitherto, contributed in no small degree, to keep the farming portion of the community far behind in the acquirement of that required agricultural information so indispensably necessary for excelling in the production of any particular staple of any country. Few bestow their leisure time or attention towards ascertaining the best or most profitable mode of growing to the greatest extent, any peculiar staple, or make it their endeavor to find out what production is best calculated for their lands or situations, and which will yield the best product, at least cost of labor or time. Such may, and probably do know that a soil which will produce hemp, will also grow tobacco of the finest and heaviest sort, and that a soil which will bring tobacco, of the highest value, cannot grow hemp three feet high. They also know that land which will produce a tolerable good crop of corn or wheat, cannot produce tobacco profitably. This analysis might be farther extended.

The farmer who intends to make hemp his staple production, must not only have the kind of land suitable to its growth, but must also make up his mind to set aside the cultiva-

tion of such other of the vegetable productions, as come in contact, or interfere with, the growth of this article. Tobacco and hemp cannot be advantageously grown upon the same farm, unless one set of hands is allotted to each, for the crisis of each crop arrives at the same time. When tobacco is in that state requiring constant attention, the hemp is ready for cutting.

For hemp, the soil must be dry, rich, and light. It will no more grow and flourish upon wet land than upon white-oak knobs. The best timbered lands for its production are those upon which the natural growth is hackberry and elm. If these kinds prevail, particularly hackberry, with an undergrowth of pawpaw and hazel, it matters not what other varieties of timber are scattered throughout. Large grape vines intertwining themselves among the branches of the trees, are always a concomitant of such a soil. Upon such a spot the first thing to be done is to grub up the undergrowth, taking all the roots possible with it. This should take place during the year previous, for, to have new land in a suitable order for hemp, it must be commenced upon the year before it is intended to be cultivated, as much of the timber must then be felled as possible, and all that is not made into rails, burnt up in heaps, or removed from the ground for other purposes. What timber is not removed should be belted with the axe, and to insure its death, this should be done between the 15th June and 1st July.

Having removed the timber to the extent intended, and burnt the brush, the sod is ready for the plow. It is best for an axe-man (or boy) to accompany each plow, that whenever a root is struck it may be severed and thrown out, thus permitting the plow to pursue its course unobstructed. I have found the 'Uncle Toby' Peoria plow far preferable for turning the sod to any I have used. In fact I have never seen a plow that I liked as well for any kind of plowing. After getting a close plowing the ground ought to be well harrowed with a heavy iron teeth harrow, and if the tool is not sufficiently heavy to tear the sods to pieces, it should have the addition of a log of wood lashed on it. It should then be cross-plowed again and harrowed as before. Land cannot be too well broken up and pulverized for a crop of hemp to succeed well. Every lick it gets will improve its production.

Presuming a field, intended for hemp, to have been thus prepared during the previous year, it will be proper, as soon after the spring opens as practicable, to again turn it over and harrow it for the season's crop. The breaking and turning of the surface of cultivated land, the plow, spade, or hoe, for the reception and growth of seeds, is a process so

universally practiced, and withal, so indispensable for the fructification and growth of the crop intended to be raised thereon, that it may be deemed incredible that such a common and simple affair should not be universally understood; and yet it cannot be doubted that many and frequent mistakes are made in this matter. Suffice it to say that there is no crop grown, requiring such an absolute fineness and complete pulverizing of the soil as hemp, and none that will pay as well for the work put on it. And this work cannot be carried on in a wet time. The earth cannot be put in the required order unless dry. Better do nothing than disturb its rest when in a wet or clammy state. No matter how wet the sod is when first turned over, but I speak of the ground after it has been placed in a state of preparation by the plow and harrow. The pernicious effects of stirring prepared or cultivated land when wet, not only destroys the growth of the *first*, but also of that of the *several successive years*. Hemp ground thus prepared should not have a hoof of any kind pass over it.

Having then put the soil of the hemp field in the order specified, it may be laid off in lands sixteen or eighteen feet wide, with a log chain made fast to the single-tree, and dragged after a single horse. When lands are laid off by a plow, although shallowly, for the sowing of seed of any kind, especially hemp seed, there is an inclination of the seed for the furrow, and it comes up in streaks. A harrow will follow the sower. The seed is sown broadcast, at the rate of one and a half bushels to the acre. When sown thicker, the seed may be considered as thrown away—worse than lost—for all over this, will produce an undergrowth of hemp, smothered by the strong thrifty stalks, which will be in the way of cutting, handling and breaking, and too short to amount to anything except an impediment to the hands. I have tried it.

A dry or wet season setting in soon after the sowing of hemp seed, is unpropitious for its full development—the dry season withholding a due moisture from the seed, thus preventing its germination; the wet, packing the soil hard to be baked by the sun, when it exerts its influence. If the first two or three weeks is seasonable, the crop is as good as made. Whenever a crop has come up well, and passed the first three weeks in growing order, the leaves keep the moisture from being evaporated from the roots, by the sun, and the larger it gets, the better order it keeps itself in. A drought seldom, if ever, hurts hemp a month old. To insure a heavy crop, the seed should be sown as early in April as practicable, taking into view the weather, as well as the preparation of the ground, for, although I have seen a good crop raised from seed sown in May, it is the uni-

versal opinion of those with whom I have conversed upon the subject, (sanctioned by my own experience,) that the sooner it is sown after the frost is from the ground, and it is in suitable order for plowing, the better. Fine crops have been produced from March sowing. It is seldom if ever, injured by frost. I never heard of the happening of such a circumstance.

Regarding seed there is a diversity of opinion. I prefer that grown during the previous year, upon stalks cultivated as corn, for the sole production of seed, rather than the growth of any preceding year, or from small hemp unsuitable for cutting, left in the field. Old seed is uncertain. I have known a good crop, (1000 lbs. per acre,) produced from such seed and I have known it fail altogether. Much, if not all depends upon the manner in which seed has been kept over. If it was well dried when got out of the chaff, and not permitted to get heated in large bulks, I presume it would germinate and thrive as well as any other. I think it safest, and of course best, for every farmer to raise his own seed—he then knows what he is doing, and what calculations to make for a crop. The pulp of the hemp seed, may appear sound and fresh, and still it may not sprout. The seed sown should be run through a wheat fan until all the chaff and whitish looking grains are exterminated.

When you are ready to commence sowing, should the earth be dry, and there exists little appearance of rain soon, I think it best to *plow* in the seed with a one horse plow—either share or shove, and then harrow thoroughly, leveling the land throughout.

Hemp seed sown upon the kind of land designated, well prepared, will, in a common season, produce ten or twelve hundred pounds of the clear article, per acre.

I will recapitulate. For the successful growing of hemp, it is indispensable.

1st. To select a *rich, dry soil*.

2d. To *sow good, clean seed, early, and at a seasonable time*.

3d. To *plow or harrow* (in or both,) the seed, as the soil and season seem to require. But, although everything else done, if the ground is not *fine* enough, and clear of roots, trees, (which shade, particularly,) and turf, a good and productive crop must not be expected.

It must, however, be borne in mind, that hemp will not do well in old, worn out ground, unless it first be deeply plowed, (say ten or twelve inches,) and sowed down in clover, to remain two years, and then turned over in the fall and permitted to remain a year more. It may then be turned over in the fall again, and remain until spring, when it is easily put in good order for hemp. Soil, *once rich*, will grow a first rate crop of hemp after being trea-

ted in this manner. I speak experimentally. Neither will hemp grow well after a small grain crop of any kind. This fact has been fully tested. But after corn and tobacco, if these crops have been well and cleanly cultivated during the previous year, it quickly shoots up and grows rapidly and luxuriously; smothering down everything else, and arrives at maturity in August or September, according to the time of sowing. However late it may have been sown, hemp will always be ready for cutting in August, though it *will* wait for you a little longer.

For cutting hemp, some farmers use the cradle, and some the hook. With the former the common work for a hand is an acre per day—with the latter, one half an acre or less. Where the growth is not over eight feet in height, it is thought best by some, to cradle, but when higher the hemp hook is generally used. In fact, hemp ten or twelve feet high, cannot be cradled to advantage, and laid straight enough to be handled with convenience. I use the hook always, from the conviction that more is saved in the article than is lost in the time. An inch at the bottom is worth a foot at the top, and where the cradle is used the hemp cannot be cut so low as where it is cut with the hook. I have never yet seen the cradler who could cut as close to the ground as a hooker, nor is the hemp generally laid so well by the former as by the latter.

That the color of the hemp may be bright it should lay in the swarth until a rain has occurred. The leaves then come off easily and the color is brighter. It is then put up in shocks, where it remains until the heat of summer has passed by—say October—when it may be spread for rotting. This is most conveniently done upon the ground from which it grew, which affords ample space. As soon as it is sufficiently rotted to permit the woody substance or pith to be easily broken, and separated from the bark or lint, it should be taken up and again put in shocks, from which it is broken out in dry weather, during the winter.

Some farmers *stack* their hemp from the swath, and let it remain in that situation until rotting time, under the impression that hemp thus managed produces a brighter and better article. I doubt it, but one thing am satisfied—that this process costs double labor, and that at cutting time, when it can be hardly spared. In the cultivation of hemp, seven or eight acres to the hand is all sufficient.

Many machines have been invented and brought forward for the breaking of hemp, but I have never yet seen one that, taking into consideration time, expense and the manner of cleaning out the fibre, equalled the old fashioned hand brake. Latterly, however, I have

read an account of 'Williams' Hemp breaking Machine,' which is said to be superior to any other yet invented, both regarding economy and good work. I hope it may succeed.

The staple of western hemp is equal to that of any other, and that it may meet a good and certain market, it is indispensable that it be clear of all foreign substances—the clear article—well prepared and baled in such order as to secure its transportation to any part of the world.

J. T. CLEVELAND.

Hazel Ridge, Mo., July 12, 1848.

From the Cultivator.

The Farmer's Wife.

So much has been said and sung in praise of 'a farmer's life,' that, apparently, no time or space has been spared to speak of the life led by his 'better half.' Our country is blessed with an abundant monthly harvest of leaves containing valuable information in regard to the culture of almost all kinds of fruits and plants, and the appliances and means best adapted to the improvement and growth of the domestic animals—but these 'lords of the soil,' seem studiously to have forgotten that their houses, as well as their barns and pastures, contain *live stock*, to which a part of their attention should be given.

The farmer's wife should be an independent, healthy, happy, and cultivated woman—one on whose culture, both physical and mental, the agriculturist has bestowed at least as much thought as he has upon that of his swine or his turnips—but is it so?

When a young farmer arrives at an age that he wishes to choose for himself a fitting wife, he naturally desires one whose intellect and taste has been enlarged and educated to an equal degree with his own, and generally he prefers one who has either been reared upon a farm, or has become personally acquainted with rural pursuits; and his wishes are readily gratified, for girls who have been carefully trained and well educated, are happily, at this day, far from being rare, or difficult to find.—A genuine love of good books, skill and taste in music, and the arts, combined with depth and strength of intellect, are possessed by many of the young girls who have enjoyed the privilege of a country birth and residence.

Such a person, not infrequently unites her fate with that of a farmer, thinking no doubt, from what she has read in agricultural periodicals, that thus she can more certainly gratify her taste for horticulture and the embellishment of her home, and at the same time fulfil a more exalted destiny than she could expect to, if she was to become a part of the fashionable circle of the city or village. Yet she is ambitious to perform as much labor as her neighbor, who has for years been engaged in

household labor, and therefore assumes the duties of house-wife, and maid-of-all-work, and her husband, who has been accustomed to see his neighbors' wives toiling from morning until night, in the cook and dairy-room, thinks it all right, with as little reflection as the peasant of Europe bestows upon the coupling his wife and mule together at the plow or the cart; and thus from mere custom, and want of thought, he allows the woman of his love to become his most devoted slave.

From this time forth, the life of the farmer's wife is one of confinement and unrelenting toil. From early dawn until late at night it is nothing but mend and boteh, cook and bake, wash and sweep, churn and make cheese, wait upon her husband and his band of laborers, bear children and nurse them. No time for relaxation or enjoyment, or the improvement of her mental or social faculties is found. As the means of the farmer and his family increase, the husband becomes more noticed, and his circle of acquaintances and friends enlarges; he daily meets his associates and mingles with the world, but his wife toils on in the old dull routine, with nothing to break in upon the monotony of her existence, except perhaps the advent of another child, or the death of one to whom her heart is bound in the strongest ties.

The husband, it may be, is engaged in some public business, or drives frequently to town for a market or for his pleasure, but he never thinks of his martyr wife, and the necessity there is in her nature, that she should share with him his pleasures and relaxations. Her labors are never ended, her cares never cease, until premature old age has come upon her, and with blanched and bowed form, she sinks into an early grave, leaving the children of her love, and the property she had saved and earned, to the care of a more youthful successor, who not seldom avenges these wrongs by tyrannising over the husband and abusing the children.

This is no fancy picture, or a delineation of what was in by-gone days, but unfortunately the original can be found in almost every neighborhood, and even among those who are called model farmers. Neither is it confined to the cultivators of the soil. All classes and occupations of men include too many in their ranks, who practically scout the idea that their wives and daughters are human beings, with souls in some way connected with their bodies, and that they are 'endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights and privileges,' among which are life and the rights to enjoy the pure air of heaven, uncontaminated with the odors of the kitchen or the steam of the wash-tub—that their social and intellectual nature is an essential part of them,—and that to live, in the full sense of the word,

is to enjoy and increase the ability of enjoying these higher attributes, by a free and varied intercourse with the pure and the gifted of their own and the opposite sex.

We hope to see the day when men, even those who consider it a privilege as well as a duty to gain a livelihood from honest toil, will take as much pains to secure those social pleasures and innocent amusements for their wives and their daughters, as they do to give proper exercise and recreation to their horses and their cattle.

When farmers will consider it proper for the females of their families, to join with them in forming and executing their plans for the improvement of the soil and of society—when they become aware of the fact that their wisest advisers and their truest friends are to be found within the limits of their own households; and will invite their friends to their *hoxes*, and there form their *farmer's clubs*, and arrange their plans and examine their prospects, they will discover that the female part of the community have a genius above being simply their maids-of-all-work, mere labor-saving machines, designed to cook potatoes, or mend stockings; or to make fashionable calls, and repeat the silly nothings and nonsense of polite society.

Let farmers take as much pains to increase the happiness and cultivate the minds of the females of their households, as they do to enlarge their fields and fertilize the soil, and they will secure a harvest of more value than any or all to which a premium has ever been awarded by any agricultural committee ever chosen. C. H. CLEVELAND, *Waterbury, Vt., May, 1852.*

It takes the Women.

The time is fast approaching when the United States will rule the commerce of the world. When I look back to the period when the British Parliament prohibited the exportation of sheep, wool or yarn, to the American Colonies—prohibited the manufacture of iron, and declared all rolling mills, and slitting mills, a nuisance, and required the Governors of their several Colonies, to cause them to be demolished within thirty days after notice, and yet permitted the Americans to export pig iron to Liverpool to exchange for British manufactures, I find that the Colonial Assembly of New Hampshire in receipt of this act of Parliament, passed laws designed to encourage the increase of sheep, and prohibit the killing of ewe sheep for five years, and that the Massachusetts Colonial Assembly passed laws giving great encouragement to the Farmers to increase their flocks of sheep, and manufacture the wool.—The Legislature made an appropriation of \$400 in addition to large sums subscribed by

individuals. The Massachusetts assembly also appointed trustees and established a spinning school, for young ladies in the city of Boston, by law the select men of the several towns, were required to visit the several families in town and see that the boys and girls did not idle away their time, but were employed in carding and spinning. Public exhibitions were held on Boston Common, and at one time, three hundred young ladies were seated by their wheels spinning, male weavers, weaving, were carried round on men's shoulders, yes, Ladies and Gentleman, these were the women that refused to drink tea, they were the mothers of our political Fathers, it was these mothers and daughters, that manufactured clothing for their husbands and sons, during the Revolutionary War. The assembly of New Hampshire during the Revolutionary War, passed a law making tow cloth a tender for all State taxes. Who but the women paid this tax.—Among the archives of our State department, not a bill of the purchase out of the State of Woolen Blankets is to be found. Our mothers and their daughters manufactured for their husbands and sons, when about to leave to join the army, our mothers would say, Husband and you my son, are about to join the army, here are my blankets for your comfort, you will bear in mind, that they must be returned. Was not this patriotism, genuine patriotism? Soon after the close of the Revolutionary War, and the independence of the United States had been acknowledged, our country was flooded by foreign manufactures, the solid coin was soon exported, and tender laws, and appraisal laws, were passed by the general assembly of this State. At length our general assembly were under the necessity in order to sustain our public credit, to make one more appeal to our patriotic mothers, in 1786 the assembly passed a law, that a person who manufactured tow, or tow and linen cloth, should be credited a certain sum per yard on their grand list. Gentlemen, by turning to your public documents, you will find that between January 1788 and Oct. 1792 your Revolutionary debt was paid, and a further sum of \$30,000 paid to the State of New York, and your State Treasurer reported that he had on hand \$14,000 in solid coin. It was then a common saying that a woman who manufactured for her own household, and one piece of goods to sell, did more to retain the solid coin in the State, than all the banks and the greatest financiers.—*Stevens' Address.*

Mr. Newton, of Ohio, in his speech some days ago, on the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, made the following reference to a successful effort, under the direction of sciences, for the restoration of an exhausted soil in this neighborhood:

'Permit me to give a single instance of the result of analysing soils in our immediate vicinity, which I got from the public journals, and from Mr. Johnson himself.

'Hon. Reverdy Johnson, in 1849, bought a farm near Baltimore so poor that the last crop of corn would not yield a peck to the acre, and all plants and vegetables growing upon the two hundred acres would not make a load of manure. He applied to a chemist, who analysed the soil, and found all the elements except phosphoric acid, and no trace of that. He recommended a preparation of bones, which was applied at an expense of ten dollars an acre. That soil is of a similar character to all the poor and partially deserted soil about this region. Who knows, and who may not rationally infer from this single example, that your chemist in a single year, in your own neighborhood, may not earn and save enough to pay his salary for fifty years?'

Life in the Country.

To live in the country and enjoy all its pleasures, we should love the country. To love the country is to take an interest in all that belongs to the country—its occupations, its sports, its culture and its improvements, its fields and forests, its trees and rocks, its valleys and hills, its lakes and rivers; to gather the flocks around us, and feed them from our own hands; to make the birds our friends, and call them all by their names; to wear a chaplet of roses, as if it were a princely diadem; to rove over the verdant fields with a higher pleasure than we should tread the carpeted halls of regal courts; to inhale the fresh air of the morning, as if it were the sweet breath of infancy; to brush the dew from the glittering fields, as if our path were strewn with diamonds; to hold converse with the trees of the forest, in their youth and in their decay, as if they could tell us the history of their own times, and as if the gnarled bark of the aged among them were all written over with the record of by-gone days—of those who planted them, and those who early gathered their fruit; to find hope and joy bursting like a flood upon our hearts, as the darting rays of light gently break upon the eastern horizon; to see the descending sun robing himself in burnished clouds, as if these were the gathering glories of the Divine throne; to find in the clear evening of winter our chambers studded with countless gems of living light; to feel that 'we are never less alone than when alone;' to make even the stillness and solitude of the country eloquent, and, above all, in the beauty of every object which presents itself to our senses, and in the unbought provision which sustains, and comforts, and fills with joy the countless multitudes of living existences which

people the land, the water, the air, everywhere, to repletion; to see the radiant tokens of an infinite and inexhaustible beneficence, as they roll by us and around us in one ceaseless flood; and in a clear bright day of summer to stand out in the midst of this resplendent creation, circled by an horizon which continually retreats from our advances, holding its distance undiminished, and with the broad and deep blue arches of heaven over us, whose depths no human imagination can fathom; to perceive this glorious temple all instinct with the presence of the Divinity, and to feel amidst all this the brain growing dizzy with wonder, and the heart swelling with an adoration and a holy joy absolutely incapable of utterance;—this it is to love the country, and to make it, not the home of the person only, but of the soul.

Culture of Fruits.

The propagation and culture of fruit trees in the nursery, and the production of fruits in the garden and orchard, at the present time occupy the attention of a very large number of persons in the United States, and constitute a very important item in the general industry. To the majority of those embarking in it the business is entirely new, and they have everything respecting it to learn. The more experienced, even, have much more to learn than they imagine. It is by no means a simple thing—the work or study of a few weeks or months—that will make nurseryman, or a fruit grower, even. We not unfrequently hear people say they would like to send their sons to a nursery for a few months, to learn the business; and a man embarking largely in fruit culture, will sit down and address a dozen inquiries to a horticultural journal, expecting replies that will at once enable him to prosecute the matter successfully. Now, we wish to draw attention to these errors; the sooner people are undeceived in these matters the better it will be for themselves and the community. We are an apt people, to be sure; still we have to learn our alphabet before we read, and a certain length of time is necessary to learn the simplest mechanical art. Agriculture and Horticulture present a much wider field for study, and a much more embarrassing one, than any mechanic art; and yet, strange enough, few people are willing to believe that they cannot at once leave the workshop or counting room, and become successful farmers, gardeners or nurserymen. How many are every year awakened from this delusion, by dear bought experience. A few succeed: they are those who appreciate their want of knowledge, and go to work as zealous and earnest students,—like a man who finds himself in a foreign country, ignorant of the language spoken, and conscious that he can-

not prosecute his travels with either pleasure or profit, until he has learned it. Such is exactly the position of the man who becomes a tiller of the soil, a grower of wheat or corn, a breeder of stock, a propagator of trees or plants, without previous study or preparation. Nature speaks to him in an unknown tongue; he is continually mistaking one sound for another; blunder after blunder confuses him; and he soon finds he must either leave her and return home to his old pursuit, or at once bend himself down with dictionary, grammar, and 'first lessons,' to study her language.

'Oh, you are exaggerating!' says a friend. 'What mystery is there in farming? Who is so stupid as not to know how to buy himself a farm; a few horses, cows, and implements; plow the land, scatter the seed, and harvest the crop? What simple operations? Pardon us, dear friend, for suggesting that you ought to have some knowledge of the qualities of soils; or you may buy just such lands as some one may be glad to get rid of, but will not suit your purpose. You ought to know something of animals; or you will certainly stock your farm with a collection in which every fault known will be represented. You ought to know something of the feeding of farm stock, and their diseases; or half your animals will die before you are aware of their sickness. You ought to know something of the comparative value of the different varieties of grains and vegetables, that you may plant that which will best suit your markets and your soils. There are a thousand other matters you ought to know of, and that you must learn by experience before farming will be profitable. So in gardening—you will find it unpleasant not to know either how or what to plant. And here the operations are more difficult, because much more numerous, and more minute and less generally understood. The propagation and culture of trees and plants is a great study—not to be learned in a few months. After some sixteen years' daily and hourly experience, close study and observation, with opportunities as good as most people have enjoyed, we feel but like an apprentice who had served his first year, and began to know how to handle his tools, and understand their names and uses.

We would have people look less lightly upon these pursuits. Young men especially, who aim at acquiring a respectable position in them should go to work in earnest—begin at the beginning, and the fallacious idea that a few months can be any sort of a preparation to enter upon this practice successfully. Those who aim at being nurserymen, should go and serve as apprentices for at least three or four years in the best establishment, where they may get a thorough training. To be able

merely to put a tree in the ground, or to set a graft or bud, is but a small part of the trade. The time is fast approaching when such acquirements will not do, they will not be sufficient to contend with greater skill, nor will they inspire the community with that confidence without which success cannot be attained. A sentiment is fast growing up against quacks or half-way voramen in any profession, and all such will find themselves run off the track. Reading, study, and observation, continually, are necessary in conjunction with every day practice.

The growing season is the time to acquire information; everything is active, and yielding to surrounding influences. The effects of soils and manures, dryness and moisture; the attacks of insects and diseases; the habits of growth and bearing of trees; the ripening of fruits; the advantages of different modes of propagation, pruning and training; and all the various treatment that trees and plants undergo during summer, should be closely watched, and every result be seized upon and turned to account, for the guidance of the future. This applies to every department of cultivation, whether it be the farm, the orchard, the fruit garden or the flower garden. Our lady friends who are embarking in the culture of flowers for their recreation and amusement, and for the embellishment of their homes, must not rest satisfied with admiration of their beautiful colors or foliage; they must study their habits, observe what soil and treatment suits them best, learn their geography, history, origin, &c., and they will greatly multiply the pleasures and benefits of floriculture.

We hear too many complaints of 'barbarous Greek and Latin names; people want everything easy and ready made. A little study and practice will make the hardest names easy and familiar. The world is wide, nations are various, and speak different languages; the names of people of one country are strange and hard to those of another; but we cannot translate them—we must take them as they are, and so with the names of plants, or fruits, or flowers, named by foreigners,—we must learn pronounce them as we learn other things more difficult.—*Genesee Farmer.*

Keeping Fruit Fresh.

The New England Farmer says he has preserved gooseberries by placing the fruit, picked rather green, in bottles so as to fill them, and then filling all spaces to the mouth with water. The bottles are then set in a kettle of cold water where they remain until it is made to boil, when they are taken out, immediately corked very securely, and set in a cellar. To this the *Prairie Farmer* adds, 'Very likely; and we have many times put gooseberries into a

bottle, clean and dry, without any cold or hot water or anything else, except corking tight and covering the cork with sealing wax, and putting into a cellar; and gooseberry pies as fresh at New Year's as though the fruit had just been taken from the bush.' This mode would serve admirably for gooseberries and currants (nearly ripe,) but for cherries and some other smaller fruits the water process has proved much the best. High flavored sour cherries, as the May Duke, Early Richmond, &c., keep much better than the heart cherries—probably Downer's Late, a very high flavored sort, would be one of the best of the latter class. The common black or *junk* bottles have been found to serve a good purpose, if perfectly clean, having never been previously used; but transparent bottles, showing exactly the condition of the fruit, are of course best. An intelligent and skillful neighbor has succeeded by still another process in preserving peaches, (cut into large pieces and divested of the skin,) as fresh as when taken from the tree; not in their weight of sugar, but in a very small quantity of that material. We have eaten them after mid-winter and could not have told by the flavor the difference between these and the fresh dish served with cream at mid-autumn. This process has cost months of labor and experiment before reaching its present state of perfection, and it is yet to undergo further attempts at improvement another season; and in the mean time will not of course be given to the public. Dr. Lee thinks that fruit cannot be kept long, even if perfectly excluded from the air, at a temperature above 60° Fah., But this mode of treating peaches appears to constitute an exception.

SWINE.

In many parts of Massachusetts there is now a general demand for pigs, and a limited supply. Perhaps elsewhere a scarcity of good swine is felt. We do not mean that there are not grunTERS and squealers enough such as they are. DroveS of animals bearing an exaggerated resemblance to a very poor pig, perambulate the country in every direction, and the air is vocal with their melodious voices. These animals might be trained, we think, to answer a very good purpose. Some of them might be made to assist in *pick*-ing out paving stones when streets are re-graded. Other would answer for express-wagons, city dispatch posts, and the like. Some could be set to getting out stone; a kernel of corn punched three feet under a rock would be an irresistible temptation to the crow-bar-snouted quadruped.

Some people purchase these long-legged, coarse-snouted, tight-bellied creatures for meal

bins; safer depositories for food of all kinds, we do not know. Some people must breed them, or they would not be about. But this is not the description of pig, that is in demand. The demand is for good pigs; and, that another season may present a sufficient supply, we offer here a few hints as to the prevalent errors in the breeding of swine, above all other domestic animals.

In the first place, most farmers, even among those who are desirous of improving their stock, endeavor to economise by purchasing a half, or quarter blood boar, of some favorite breed. Now, friends, this is an advance in the wrong direction. Every generation is farther and farther from the perfection you desire to obtain. For, at every cross, you breed out, more and more, the improved blood. A thoroughbred boar, at twenty dollars, is cheaper than a half-blood, which you are paid twenty dollars to use.

This is not fancy-farming! Your common sense will teach you that the sleek Suffolks and the fine boned Middlesex breed were not brought to their present perfection by the use of second-rate animals. You, yourselves, with judgment and perseverance can form a breed equal to either of these; by using a full blooded boar with a well selected native sow; and by a wise selection among the litter for your next breeder; care being always had not to breed too close.

This brings us to the second error, which is often, very often made. A pair of pigs for breeding purposes, is selected very frequently, —we may indeed say, very generally—from the same litter—full brother and sister. This is closer than the greatest sticklers for in-and-in breeding recommend; except in extreme cases, when it is desired to strengthen and confirm some good points, and other selection is inconvenient. To make matters worse, the next boar is selected out of some subsequent litter of their descendents; and the experiment ends in a lot of nondescripts; that are all head and ears, and no body worth speaking of,—a carpenter's horse, with a barrel on one end, and two feet of kinked two inch rope, hanging down at the other. Then you denounce these imported breeds as a humbug; and laud the natives, that have not got along quite as far as yours.

As we remarked in the series on 'Domestic Animals,'—'It is about of equal importance, how you select and how you feed.' The difference of care was never better illustrated than in an instance that occurred in our experience.—Out of a fine litter we sold a first choice of pigs to a friend: a second, third and fourth pick was taken from the lot, and the refuse remained with us; to be killed out of the way, when convenient, as we were closing up our 'account

of stock, to devote all our time to this Journal. Our pigs when killed some time afterward, had trebled their weight; the same was the case with one of the same lot presented to a tenant—an Irish woman. But the best pigs of the litter had not gained ten pounds—they were stunted.—Our friend's farmer said he 'didn't want to see any more Suffolks if them was a sample.' We thought so to.

A few days ago a purchaser doubted the purity of his stock of Suffolks, because some one or two of the litter were spotted with black. This, by itself, is no argument against the purity of the blood; for the improved suffolks are a cross between the Old Suffolk pig—a large and coarse breed—with the China; which are spotted. This evidence of the China cross breaks out once in a while; but by care in always selecting the pure white for breeders, the spots will be bred out.

Most, if not all, of the imported improved breeds have been brought to their present perfection by the use of the Chinese bloods. This China breed, is fine in the bone and possessing a wonderful aptitude to take on fat. Their beauty is, what our friend Jaques, of Worcester happily calls—the *beauty of utility*; and they are well designed, and built to be the reformers of their race.

Farmers have a horror of long articles; so that we defer a discussion of the feeding of swine, &c., to another opportunity, when we will present another dish of pig—*Journal of Agriculture*.

THINNING OUT VEGETABLES.—There is a greater loss in suffering vegetables to stand too thick than most cultivators are aware of. It does require considerable nerve to commit indiscriminate slaughter upon fine growing plants.—For instance, here are ten fine beautiful melon vines, just beginning to run, with fruit blossoms forming. Now who has the bold hardihood to draw them all out but three or four, and throw them wilting away? Who can take the beets just as their tops give evidence of roots below, and separate them to ten inches? It is a hard matter we must confess, and is not properly done one time in twenty; but to have bulbs, top roots, melons, cucumbers or squashes, it must now be done, and the increased vigor of the remaining plants will repay the trouble. Then fall to, and spare not; no top-rooted plant or bulb should stand so thick that the hoe will not pass freely between them. No vine should have more than four or five plants left to a hill.

Snap beans look so pretty growing thick, that we hate to disturb them; but if you would have the bushes yield their pendant treasures, thin out to ten inches. We know nothing that will bear as thick planting as English

peas; in place of thinning them, shade the ground around them; now that they are in bloom and in pod, they will continue in fruit much longer; the shade enriches the land and saves culture. It is not always those who make the earliest and best, but those who thin judiciously and cultivate understandingly. Most gardeners plant seeds too thick, trusting to thinning out in their growing state; but alas! they look so uninviting, and plead so eloquently for life, that degenerate and inferior plants are the rewards of our false philosophy.—*Ex.*

Hilling Indian Corn.

Mr. Iredell—It is a mooted question in the Agricultural world, and will probably long remain an undecided one, whether Indian corn should be 'killed.' For my own part, I must confess that both observation and experience convinced me that it should not. I do not intend to discuss the question philosophically, in this paper, but merely to state the result of experiments. In the summer of 1850 I had a piece of corn—comprising about one acre—half of which I hilled up with a broad, conical hill at the last hoeing, the other being left flat. Both plans were decidedly good, and both had received the same quantity of manure, and precisely the same cultivation, with the exception above named. In July there came a heavy tornado, and the corn in both pieces was much prostrated, but on examining I found that the hilled piece was broken off in many cases, indeed, in almost every hill, while the unhilled or level part had escaped. The consequence was, that the plants on the latter rose, while those on the former did not, but retained, to a great extent, that position they had been compelled to take by the wind. There was also a very perceptible difference in the quantity of the crop in favor of the former. Now let us examine the reason for this. When fresh soil is brought up around the corn stalk, it induces a fresh evolution of brace or lateral roots, and this every time fresh accessions of dirt are made. But the brace roots do not tend in a very powerful degree, to the support of the plant; they are too superficial—the soil is light, and they sway with the swaying of the plant. Besides the effect of the dirt is to blanch and render brittle the portion of the stalk around which it is placed, and consequently liable to snap off before even a moderate wind. If no dirt was to be brought up, the original laterals or brace roots, would extend themselves, acquire size and energy, and be capable, by their magnitude and strong hold upon a firm soil, of supporting the plant in any wind. My plan is to plant so as to have the rows run both ways of the piece, i. e. cross each other

at right angles, which admits of working the crop with the harrow or cultivator, and to keep the surface entirely level. There is no philosophy whatever in making any elevation above the roots, so far as the support of the plants is concerned, and it must be obvious I think, to every reflecting person, that the exposure of an extra extent of surface in a dry time, as in the case of hilling, must increase the effect of drought.—*Cor. Herald and Free Press.*

The Value of Carrots.

Very few persons are aware of the fact, that young carrots are among the most wholesome of vegetables, and greatly assist digestion.—French cooks in many of their stewed dishes, introduce small slices of young carrots and the *Julienne* soup, so common on every French table, is seasoned with finely chopped vegetables—young carrots being the most important; and the difference in digestion between a dinner eaten at a French *café* and an English hotel, is not alone in the cooking, but in the vegetable condiments introduced. It is only lately that the chemists have explained the digestive stimulus known to exist in the carrot to consist in a peculiar acid found in this vegetable.

After saying so much with a view to the promotion of a better understanding with the carrot in our kitchen garden, we quote the following in corroboration from the *Working Farmer*, calculated to increase the field cultivation of this useful vegetable.

Two bushels of oats and one of carrots is better for food for a horse, than three bushels of oats; and when used for light work, the quantity of carrots may be increased. With such food, horses will enjoy good health, a loose hide, shining coat, and improved digestion.

It may be thus explained: The carrot is very nutritious, and, in addition, has the curious property of gelatinizing the watery solutions contained in the stomach of the horse.—Carrots contain *petic acid*, a single drop of which, mixed with the juice of an orange or other fruit, immediately turns it into a jelly, and the Paris confectioners use it for this purpose. Soups, in which carrots have been boiled are always gelatinous when cold, and are more easily digested when used as food than soups otherwise made.

The bene plant has similar properties. A thin slice of this plant thrown into a glass of water, renders it ropy and gelatinous, and for this reason it is a specific for summer complaint with children.

By examining the dung of a horse fed in part on carrots, it will be found to contain no undigested hay or oats, and therefore, less

quantities of those materials are necessary than when half the amount swallowed is parted with in an undigested state. For fattening animals, the carrot is equally valuable, and for milk cows they surpass any other food.—The milk of a cow at mid-winter fed on carrots, is equal in flavor to that supplied from clover in summer, while the butter made from the milk is finely colored and highly flavored.

In soils containing proper proportions of bone dust, sulphuric acid, potash and common salt, 800 bushels of long orange, or 1100 bushels of white Belgian carrots may be easily raised per acre, while the same land will not produce one-tenth the quantity of oats.—*Downing's Horticulturist.*

Habits of the Curculio.

The *curculio*, is a small insect not more than a quarter of an inch long, of a dark brown color, the sheaths covering the wings slightly variegated with lighter colors, the body resembling in size and appearance a ripe hemp seed. It is distinguished by an elongation of the head, resembling a conspicuous rostrum or beak projecting from the front part of its thorax.

About the time the young fruit attains the size of a pea, the curculio begins its work of destruction. It makes a small crescent shaped incision in the young fruit, and lays its egg in the opening. The presence of the egg may be easily detected by these incisions upon the surface. The egg soon hatches into a small white larva, which enters the body of the fruit and feeds upon it, causing, usually, its premature fall to the ground.

The period at which the young fruit falls, after being punctured, varies with its age at the time of the injury. The earliest portions drop in about two weeks; but if the stone is hard when the egg is laid the fruit remains till near the usual period of ripening, sometimes presenting a fair and smooth exterior, but spoiled by the worm within.

The insect, soon after the fall of the fruit, makes its way into the earth, where it is supposed to remain till the following spring, when it is transformed into the perfect insect or beetle, to lay its eggs and perpetuate its race.—Instances, however, have occurred, where the transformation has taken place within twenty days of the fall of the fruit.

The curculio travels by flying, but only during quite warm weather, or at the heat of the day. The insects mostly confine themselves to certain trees, or to the same orchard. But the fact that newly bearing and isolated orchards are soon attacked, clearly shows that in occasional instances they must travel considerable distances. Indeed, they have been known to be wafted on the wind for a half a

mile or more, the windward side of orchards being most infested, immediately after strong winds from a thickly planted plum neighborhood. In the cool of the morning, they are nearly torpid, and can scarcely fly, and crawl but slowly; hence, at this time of the day they are most easily destroyed.

Their flight appears to be never more than a few feet from the ground, and successful attempts have been made to shut them out of fruit gardens by means of a tight board fence, nine or ten feet high, entered by a tight gate. —*Thomas.*

BONE DISEASE—MILCH COWS.—There are frequent inquiries in relation to a disease among milch cows, which is becoming quite prevalent. It arises from an exhaustion of the properties in the herbage which is necessary for the milch cow. Bone meal, we learn from the Boston Cultivator, is being used in New England as a medicine, fed to the cows, and with advantage. It is mixed with salt. The application of phosphate of lime, or bones, to the soil, will doubtless prove restorative—as this in England has been successfully applied, in the dairy districts, where the same disease has frequently prevailed.—*Jour. N. Y. State Agricultural Society.*

We are not surprised at the above; it is only strange that in soils denuded of phosphate of lime, that any attempt should be made to conduct a dairy farm. Phosphate of lime is one of the ingredients of milk, and without its presence, good healthy milk can not be formed. Every dairyman knows that cows will occasionally bite at a bone, even in the rough unground state, and this is always the case when their food is grown on soils not containing the proper constituents of milk.—To cattle breeders this of the greatest importance. To form muscle without corresponding bone cannot produce a good result. The improved Super-phosphate of lime, advertised by Mr. McCready, will entirely do away with these difficulties on dairy farms.—*Working Farmer.*

WORTH KNOWING.—A young lady, while in the country some years ago, stepped on a rusty nail, which ran through her shoe and into her foot. The inflammation and pain were of course very great, and locked-jaw apprehended. A friend of the family, however, recommended the application of a beet, taken fresh from the garden and pounded fine, to the wound. It was soon done, and the effect was beneficial. Soon the inflammation began to subside; and by keeping on the crushed beet, changing it for a fresh one as its virtue seemed to become impaired, a speedy cure was effected. Simple but effectual remedies like this should be known to every one.

Painting with Milk instead of Oil.

We remember in former days, that some people used to paint in different colors by using skimmed milk instead of oil. This would not stand weather, and was merely used for work that was protected from rain and sun. We have been requested to publish a recipe for painting in this way. The Farmer & Mechanic of New York, contains the following direction. It says that this mode of painting has been used with success in Europe. It is made from milk and lime, has no smell, and dries quickly.

Take fresh curd and bruise the lumps on a grinder, or in an earthen pan or mortar with a spatula or spoon. Put them into a pot with an equal quantity of lime that has been well slack'd with water, to make it just thick enough to be kneaded. Stir this mixture without adding any more water, and a white colored fluid will be obtained, which will serve as a paint.

It is laid on with a brush, as any other paint. It spreads easily, but should be used on the same day it is mixed, or it will become too thick. Some colors, as Prussian blue, for instance, are changed by the action of the lime; but the Ochres do well, such as the red or yellow. After becoming dry, it may be rubbed down with a clean woollen cloth, when it will become bright as varnish. It may be varnished over with whites of eggs, which will give it a lustre, and it will last very long in dry and unexposed places.—*Exchange.*

A NEW IDEA IN AGRICULTURE—Raising Potatoes with Straw.—The steward on board a U. S. steamer, in the Gulf, has produced several crops of excellent potatoes by the following mode of cultivation without ground:

He procured a common 'crockery crate,' a bundle of straw, and a few eyes of the potato and went to work farming it on board ship! The process for cultivating them is this:—Fill you a crate with alternate layers of straw and the eyes of the potatoe, commencing at the bottom with a layer of about six inches in depth of straw, and then a layer of the eyes—the eyes being placed about two inches apart over the surface of the straw—then another layer of straw on the top. Keep the straw always moist, and in about two months you will have about fourteen dollars worth of sound, good potatoes of the 'first water.'

An English gardener has, for more than twenty years past, kept down the weeds in gravel walks, without any apparent bad effect, by sprinkling over them annually dry salt, in dry weather, and then sweeping it thinly and regularly with a broom.

Reasons against a Dog Tax.

Friendly Editors;—As the Legislature is about to enact a new tax law, and appear disposed to tax all kinds of property alike, I wish to call their attention to one species of property which has long been exempt, and it is to be hoped they will not so innovate on a long established precedent as to bring it on the tax list. True yourselves and correspondents and very many other a few years since made great exertions to have this property (dogs) taxed; and a law for that purpose was enacted, but repealed before going into effect. Having reviewed the arguments *pro* and *con*, and having changed my views of such a law, I wish to give the reasons for the change, and why dogs should not be taxed—hoping humbly that the Legislature and people will give them due attention. A hint to a wise man is as good as a kick, therefore I shall condense as much as possible.

First, then, dogs are not producers but consumers, it is unreasonable, if not useless to tax them. Your cow and sheep will bear taxation, for the first produces milk, beef and hides—the latter mutton and wool—but who could afford to be taxed on so worthless a thing as a dog.

Secondly, mutton and wool are low priced now, and what would they bring were dogs taxed to death, and the 300,000 sheep the dogs annually destroy, and their wool and increase added to the present stock? Why, wool and mutton would be so plenty every one would have enough and to spare. Again, every dog costs about as much yearly for his support as would make a barrel of pork. My township has about 300 of them, and being, I presume, no more doggish than others, that ratio would make about 360,000 in the State. If these 360,000 dogs were converted into barrels of pork, and thrown into the market 'on top of' our present supply, d'ye think any body would want to buy pork? it would glut universal Yankeeedom.

Again, if dogs were abolished, which would amount to the same thing, what would the numerous poor families, who are engaged in a laudable struggle to keep the breath of life in some half dozen starving hounds and curs do with their surplus pork, mush and milk,—wouldn't the children surfeit? And if wool, and of coarse clothing were cheap, wouldn't there be danger that many poor children, who can't go to school now for want of clothing, would be enabled to get an education, so as to be in the way of the rich and well born?—What farmer well to do in the world but knows the advantage of having poor neighbors to do his work, and take a few pounds of pork, wool, or mutton for pay? Could he expect such, were they all to raise pigs and sheep, and

employ the boys at raising corn and potatoes instead of chasing the dogs about the woods and fields after squirrels and rabbits? No sir-ee! no such thing.

Again, most of us travel more or less; who has not experienced the exhilarating and delightful effects a chorus from half a dozen curs has on the nerves, as they rush on him and his horse on the high road? Away goes horse and rider as if old Nick had kicked them on end; and just as Dobbin begins to flag, out comes another pack and sends him on again. Think of the expense you will be obliged to incur for whips and spurs before you venture a tax on dogs.

Bear in mind that something is necessary to keep the supply of sheep within the demand; and as we have improvidently and foolishly destroyed and driven off from our State their natural enemy the wolf, which God had provided for that purpose, pray don't add to our former follies that of destroying the next best remedy of over production.

Feeling in duty bound to make this humble confession of repentance for former heresies, I am your obedient CONVERTED DOG HATER.

Ohio Cultivator.

KNITTING MACHINE.—A number of articles have appeared from time about knitting machines, and it has been a matter of no small wonder to many how they can make so many stitches per minute, one in Philadelphia making 60,000, and another said to make 100,000. This number is a pretty large quantity; but when it is considered that 800 needles are operated at once, the wonder ceases to be a wonder. The Griswoldville Knitting Company, Weathersfield, Ct., have these machines in operation. So we learn from one of our scientific exchanges.

CHEAPENING PAINTS.—Dr. A. H. Plant of Sheboygan, Wis., announces that he has, after years of patient experiment, perfected the discovery of a very cheap substitute for linseed oil and white lead, whereby paints for ordinary purposes are greatly cheapened. His new paints are of all colors, except white, which he expects soon to perfect, and will cost in the average about half the present rates. The paints have been tested and approved of, it is said.

The Lawrenceburgh Press states that Dr. J. G. Dunn, of that city, had discovered a chemical combination by which he can change the surface of any kind of stone or brick so as to represent the most beautiful and substantial marble or granite. It is simply a process for crystalizing lime, and is capable of being colored or mottled by any tint whatever.

The Valley Farmer.

EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Editor.

Editor's office and Printing office, Third street, corner Pin

ST. LOUIS, JULY, 1852.

The Law of Newspapers.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered wishing to continue their subscriptions.
2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher may continue to send them till arrears are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the offices where they are directed, they are held responsible until they have ordered them discontinued and settled their bills.
4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.
5. The courts have decided that refusing to take a paper or periodical from the office, or removing and leaving it uncalled for while in arrears to the publisher, is evidence of intentional fraud.
6. Any person who receives a paper and makes use of it, whether he has ordered it sent or not, is held in law to be a subscriber.

THANKS.—Our hearts are full of gratitude to the kind friends we met with all along our journey. To those who so hospitably entertained us; to those who labored so hard to promote our interests by increasing the circulation of our journal, and to those who so heartily engaged in the work of organization, and accomplished so much in the good cause. We went among strangers, except as they had become acquainted with us through our paper, and we met every where warm hearts and open hands. We cannot here mention the names of those who have endeared themselves to us by their kind hospitality and cheerful co-operation in our plans. *Their record is in our hearts.*

Our January number is exhausted, and in furnishing new subscribers we send all except it. We shall reprint this number so as to forward it by the 20th of the present month, when it will be immediately mailed to all who have not already received it. We still receive subscriptions to commence with the year, and recommend all new subscribers to supply themselves with the back numbers, so as to have the volume complete.

STRAWBERRIES.—The season for this delicious fruit is past, but we must return our thanks for more than one mess sent us by our

kind friends. In particular do we note those from Mr. PECKHAM, proprietor of 'Hyde Park,' and those which accompanied the magnificent bouquet from Mr. J. TURNER. Mr. Peckham's box were very large, and excellently flavored, and we are sure that we did ample justice to them. But we think Mr. Turner's were the largest and fairest of which we have ever had the pleasure to partake. Some of them we judged would measure three and a half inches in circumference. We say we should 'judge,' we did not measure them, cause why—while we were preparing some strips of paper to measure them, the *Irish girl ate them up.*

THE WOOL GROWER.—This valuable journal, which has hitherto been published at Buffalo, New York, by T. C. Peters, has passed into the hands of D. D. T. Moore, of the Rural New Yorker, at Rochester, at which place its publication will be continued. Mr. Peters will be retained editor of the Wool Department. Its price is only fifty cents a year, and we heartily and cheerfully recommend it to every person interested in sheep husbandry, or the production or manufacture of wool.

POLITICAL MATTERS.—Well now the ball is fairly open. The democrats are marshaling under Gen. PIERCE and Gov. KING, and the Whigs under Gen. SCOTT, and Mr. GRAHAM, while the contest for State offices affords admirable scope for scene-shifting and by-play. Well, brother farmers, let us say again, don't forget that 'the skin is nearer than the fleece,' and that there are interests more important than the question, who shall be President?

There are several matters which demand serious attention at the hands of the farmers. The subject of county organization, of a State Board of Agriculture, of Agricultural Schools, of a National Bureau of Agriculture—all of these should be borne in mind, and the pulse of the candidates felt in regard to them. Recollect, if you forget in the heat of party to attend to your own vital interests, you may find out too late that you have *Pierced* yourselves through with many sorrows, and instead of coming off *Scott* free in the contest, you have been so little cared for in the great national *Ba-King* that you have not even so much as a

morsel of *Graham* bread allotted you in the distribution of the 'loves and fishes' of political favors.

Correspondence the Valley Farmer.
THE GROVE, Cook Co., ILL., July 1st, 1852.

FRIEND ABBOTT:—I have seen no full or very correct report of the proceedings of our convention at Springfield. But for fear you should receive no account of it, I send you the inclosed from The Illinois Journal.*

The FRIENDS of our movement were unanimous on all points discussed. There was no difference of opinion among us. The want of 'hamony' originated in our admitting the enemies of 'an Industrial Institution' to seats in our convention. We wished for discussion.—But as the opposition could not *rule*, they took the best means to *ruin* us. They withdrew in a body, and threatened us with the indignation of a press or two. But I trust they will think better of it, and admit the majority should rule, in schools and conventions too.

Our opponents were all learned Professors, and they opposed our views with great zeal and ability, and urged their own old world notions in a manner worthy of the old schools, to which all of them belong.

Would that they could see as we do, that they are acting against the best interests of their own Colleges in opposing the creation of ours.

We kept faith with them, and did not urge our plan upon the Legislature. They said that they only opposed *that*, and we did not urge it in our Industrial Convention—nor ask for immediate action—and I presume the Legislature took no action thereon. But we have not done—you may rest assured of that—another convention will be called, and should it be deemed necessary, there are those who will speak to 'the people,' and collect their voices for the action of our next General Assembly of the State of Illinois—'nous verrons.'

Farewell, JOHN A. KENNICUTT.

* These proceedings will be published in the August number of the Valley Farmer.—ED.

We copy from the *St. Louis Intelligencer* the following account, at the same time we may be permitted to say that we think it rather too highly colored. Our information from

many sections is that great injury was done to the crop by winter killing, and in some other sections the worm and other pests have affected it. The quality is good and we presume taking all together, there will be about an average crop—not more. At all events we do not think our farmers need fear that the market will be glutted.

THE WHEAT CROP.

It will gratify all our readers to learn, that we continue to receive, from all the great grain growing States of the country, information of an abundant wheat harvest. The crop will not only be large, but, so far as we can learn, the grain, in general, will be fine. In small sections the fly has injured the grain, and in others, the rust; but throughout the length and breadth of the land, the farming interests, have abundant cause for thankfulness, that the 'Lord of the harvest' has been pleased to crown their labors with success.

We think the yield of grain (wheat) the present year will be the largest crop since 1843. If we remember right, that year it was estimated at 116 millions of bushels—this year, we estimate it at full 140 millions, which at 80 cents per bushel, which is about a fair average for all sections of the Union, the crop will amount to 112 millions of dollars—more in value, than the whole Cotton crop of the present year, which, it is now conceded, will reach nearly three millions of bales, which at an average of \$30 per bale is 90 millions.

The *Cotton* crop of the country is usually denominated the 'great crop,' and to its yield or failure, we are accustomed to look with much solicitude.

We however, esteem the *Wheat*; the 'great crop' of the land, and the failure of this crop, for a single year, even with all our California gold imports, would produce the most disastrous consequences, to the monetary affairs of our land.

Happily this year, from this cause we have nothing to fear.

The latest advices we have from *England* represent the prospect good, for all the smaller grains, but like our own crop, that of *England*, cannot be judged of, until within a short time before it is ripe—and the harvest there, does not take place, until the latter end of August and first of September.

ORCHARD GRASS FOR MEADOWS.—A correspondent wishes information as to the value of Orchard Grass for hay as compared with Timothy. Also, directions as to its culture, quantity of seed to the acre, &c. Will not some of our correspondents furnish the information?

Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., &c.

Last week we gave a statement of the amount of Stock exported from this county by one individual during the term of one year, amounting to the sum of \$12,644, and upon further inquiry we are credibly informed by Traders that more Cattle, Hogs and Sheep are shipped from our city than all points on the Missouri put together. Owing to the fact that no account has been regularly kept by any one concerning our exportations, it is difficult to get at the aggregate amount, but by application to different individuals engaged in the stock trade, we hope soon to be able to furnish an approximate account of our annual exportations in this important branch of agriculture. When we do, we believe that it will make stock dealers direct their particular attention to Cooper.

In this connection the idea of a county Agricultural Society presents itself. Our neighboring counties: Boone, Howard and Pettis have established or taking the necessary steps, to establish County Agricultural Societies.— Shall we be behind them? We say no! Let those most interested take the preliminary steps and Cooper will not found wanting in efforts to accomplish an object so desirable.— The organization of county Agricultural Societies, is expected to be auxiliary to the establishment of a State Agricultural Society. The next Legislature will be applied to for an appropriation to secure permanent establishment. They have a beneficial tendency wherever established. Take the example of the States of N. Y. and Ohio. It has been estimated that within a few years past their stock, agricultural and Horticultural resources have advanced from 25 to 50 per cent.

In Missouri and we may even say Cooper county, a mere fraction of the soil is in cultivation, and the greater portion of that not half cultivated. Should we make the most out of our great natural advantages *now*, or is it wiser to leave this labor for the next generation?—*Booneville Observer.*

PREMIUM SALE OF TOBACCO.—The annual premium tobacco sale at the State Tobacco Warehouse, came off yesterday. The break comprised ninety hogheads, and were disposed of as follows:

The premium of sixty dollars for the best manufacturing hoghead was awarded to E. R. Conley, of Calloway county, Mo. This hoghead sold at \$30.05 per hundred pounds, and was purchased by Liggett & Bros., manufacturers of this city.

The premium of thirty dollars for the second hoghead of manufacturing was awarded to H. W. Stokes, of Calloway county. This hoghead was purchased by Lewis & Bros., manufacturers of this city, at \$18.

The first shipping premium of forty dollars

was given to Mrs. S. C. Bibb, of Franklin Co., and the second of twenty dollars, to A. Leathers, of the same county. The first hoghead sold at \$10, the second at \$8.25, and both purchased by Lewis & Bros. Col. F. P. Chiles, the merchant here, through whom they were sold, again gave silver cups to the purchasers.

Seventeen hds. manufacturing sold to different purchasers from \$8.20 to \$20, and the remaining 68 hds., including common manufacturing and inferior to fine shipping ranging all the way through from \$3.35 to \$7.75 per hundred lbs. Included in the sale was a great deal of common tobacco, not designed to be offered for the premiums, but having it in the warehouse, the parties concluded to put it up, in order to obtain good prices—hence the unusually large number of hogheads sold. *St. Louis evening News, 25th ult.*

PLANTS POISONED.—Dr. Salisbury and Albany, N. Y., recently communicated to the American Scientific Association some experiments on plants, which illustrate the analogy existing between animal and vegetable physiology. Dr. S. extracted the poison of a dead rattlesnake, a small portion of which he inserted in the plants by moistening with it the blade of a knife, with which he wounded a lilac, a horse-chestnut, a corn plant, and a sunflower. In sixty hours after the infliction of the wound, they began to manifest symptoms of poisoning, and in a few days all their leaves above the wound were dead. In about fifteen days they manifested convalescences, and finally all recovered from the injury.

Tomatoes.

Within our remembrance, this vegetable was universally despised as an article of food though it is now universally appreciated. It has gone through more transformations in its preparations for the human stomach, than any other edible we know of. It is served raw with pepper salt, and vinegar, or plain, and sometimes eaten like an apple, with great relish by some farmers. It is pickled, green or ripe, or preserved in sugar. Pies, puddings and tarts are made of it, and catchup enough to float a Lilliputian navy. It is dried like apples, or cooked and spread upon plates and dried in ovens and has been ground into meal to preserve for winter cooking. It is also packed in melted lard in jars for the same purpose. Tomato pills at one time threatened to turn calomel over at the dogs. But the last grand discovery was reserved for the last year. Tomato whisky is latest product we have heard of being tortured out of this vegetable. We suppose the cant phrase of 'too much corn,' will now be altered to 'too much tomato,' and that tomato whisky will hereafter be quoted among the agricultural products of the country.—*The Plow.*

Howard County Agricultural Society.

On the 12th day of June, 1852, a portion of the citizens of Howard county met in the College Chapel at Fayette, to consider the propriety of organizing a County Agricultural Society, when on motion of Capt. J. T. Cleveland, Dr. J. J. Lowry was called to the Chair, and J. W. Henry appointed Secretary.

G. M. B. Maughs, by request explained the object of the meeting, after which Mr. Abbott, (editor of the 'Valley Farmer,') addressed the meet on the subject Agriculture, at the conclusion of which, on motion of Abiel Leonard Esq., it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting are due, and are hereby respectfully tendered to Mr. Abbott for his very able and interesting address.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the citizens of Howard county be requested to meet at the Court House in Fayette, on the first Monday in July ensuing, to consider the propriety of organizing a County Agricultural Society.

On motion, the Secretary was ordered to furnish the 'Banner and Times' with a copy of the proceedings for publication.

The meeting then adjourned until the first Monday in July. J. J. LOWRY, Pres't.

J. W. HENRY, Sec'y.

Bob's notion of Book Farming.

Bob, the farmer's son, thus expresses his notion of an improved system of farming in the Indiana Farmer:

EDITORS FARMER:—I have only to say to you, that I wish you would keep your agricultural paper to yourselves, and away from our house. Since the old man has been taking it there is no 'rest for the wicked,' certain. He keeps us hauling *muck*, (as he calls it,) manure—old ashes, and even make us clean out the pig pen and put the filth on the fields. Formerly there was some mercy shown the horses, for we plowed only three or four inches deep, but now, nothing less than ten inches will do, and the corn ground is to be plowed, below that, with a new plow he has just bought.

The next thing, I presume, will be to take the bottom out of the well! We used to take the Palladium, and he would suck down the politics contained in it as gospel truths, and had plenty of time to spend half a day any time to talk about who should be elected, and who should not. But he don't read the paper now, and he is as anxious to get the Farmer, as he was formerly to have election day come round. He is all the time talking about new 'fertilizers,' new varieties of seeds, who will get premiums, &c. He don't only talk either, but he make us boys hoe to work from morning till night.

We have had to tear down all the fences, and reset them, and he has got the old lady in the notion of whitewashing the garden fence.—What foolishness! and the plague of it is, we boys will have it to do—just wasting the time we might spend in fishing. So keep your paper to yourselves, and we will have some rest again. Bob.

LONGEVITY OF THE HORSE.—It has long been the impression that the ordinary duration of a horse's life is much shorter than it ought to be, and that the excess of mortality is the carelessness or ignorant management. The great error consists in regarding the temperament and constitution of the horse as altogether different from those of human beings; whereas, they are precisely the same in all important respects, Disease, arising from excessive fatigue, over heating, and exposure to the air, want of exercise, and improper diet both as respects quality and quantity, and from many other causes affects the horse and his master alike, and neglect in either case must terminate fatally. Indeed, when a man or horse has acquired, by a course of training, a high degree of health and vigor, the skin of either, is an invariable index of the fact.

It has been remarked in England, that the skin of the pugilist, when he has undergone a severe course of training, when he prepares himself for the fight, exhibits a degree of beauty and exceeding fairness that excites the admiration as well as the wonder of the spectators. So with the horse; his skin is the clearest evidence of the general state of his health. Even the common disease of foundering is not peculiar to the horse, but is a muscular affection, to which many men who have overstrained themselves at any period are subject. In fact the medical treatment of the horse and its rider ought to be the same; and we confidentially believe that if this principle were acted upon with a moderate share of attention and resolution, the average life of this useful animal would be much longer, and the profit derived from his labors proportionately greater. —*Am. Vt. Journal.*

PASTURE FOR COWS.—See that your cows are provided with good pasture and a sufficiency of pure water. Cows that have to labor hard all day in a hot sun to provide a scanty supply of food, and take her drink from a mud puddle, will not give so much or so good milk as those that are provided with an abundant supply of succulent grass, and water from a spring or brook, so that they can fill themselves in a short time and then lay down down to rest.—There is no animal on the farm that is so much benefited by rest and quiet indulgence as a cow that gives milk.

CHARCOAL AND SALT FOR SHEEP.—A contributor to the North-western Cultivator writes, 'It is generally conceded that wet pastures are unfavorable to the health of sheep. I have kept a flock for four years in a pasture of this description—for the first two years with unfavorable results. My sheep were unhealthy, and many of them died. I ascribe it to the wetness of my pasture. Upon recommendation of an old farmer, I gave the sheep charcoal mixed with salt. My sheep presented a more healthy appearance. I have continued the treatment, and the animals have continued to thrive. I suppose the medicinal qualities of this mixture consist in the disinfecting qualities of the charcoal.' And in the invaluable tonic and alterative properties of the salt, we may add; for, like many other remedial agents, this article, when given in small doses, augments the digestive functions. In larger doses it is a cathartic.—*Am. Vt. Journal.*

AGE OF SHEEP.—The age of sheep may be known by the front teeth. They are eight in number, and appear the first year all of a size. In the second year the two middle ones fall out, and their place is supplied by two large ones. In the third year a small tooth on each side. In the fourth year the large teeth are six in number. In the fifth year the whole of the front teeth are large. In the sixth year the whole begin to get worn. In the seventh year some fall out or are broken.

It is said that the teeth of ewes begin to decay at five or six; those of weathers at seven, productive for seventeen years.

LAZY HONEY BEES.—The late news from Honolulu states the failure of an attempt to take a swarm of bees from Boston around the Cape to the Sandwich Islands. On entering the tropics the wax melted, and the bees perished. The introduction of honey bees into the Island has long been deemed a matter of importance.

In Sydney Smith's sketches of Moral Philosophy, we remember he mentions, on the authority of Dr. Darwin, a curious instance of change of instinct in this little insect, from which it would seem, the Islanders have small cause to regret the failure of the attempt at its naturalization. He says: 'The bees carried over to Barbadoes, and the Western Isles ceased to lay up any honey after the first year, as they found it not useful to them. They perceived that the weather was so fine and materials for making honey so plentiful, that they quitted their grave, prudent and mercantile character, became exceedingly profligate, and debauched, eat up their capital, resolved to work no more, and amused themselves by flying about sugar-houses and stinging the negroes.'

The Peoria Press has information that the crops in that region look very well. In the timber portions of Fulton and Schuyler, and other river counties, the wheat crop is unusually good. On the prairies, the winter has been a little more injurious, and the prospects are not so good. The crop, however, bids fair to be good one. Corn, though late, is looking well, and small grain sown this spring, is excellent everywhere.

The Mt. Sterling Democrat says, that the prospects are nattering for a heavy crop this season in Brown and the adjoining counties. The farmers in that region have commenced working in the corn crop, which presents a promising appearance. The wheat looks remarkable fine and from present appearances, will turn off a heavy yield at harvest.—*Springfield Register.*

The Bangor Courier pronounces the cotton wool remedy against the ravages of the curculio, a 'humbug.' Why not? (it asks) 'Don't the curculio the fly?' A friend informs us that he has taken especial pains with the cotton wool, but found his cherries and plums punctured, and on shaking his trees obtained quantity of the little *rascals*. He thinks they will be unusually abundant this year. Fruit growers must resort to shaking the trees again, if they would secure any quantity of plums.'

The Crops throughout England, as the advices by the last steamers state, are luxuriant. Between Liverpool and London, the country is clothed with the richest verdure, and similar accounts reach us from other parts of the island and from Ireland. The wheat crop is especially thriving. Other grains look well, and so do potatoes. There is a prospect of a fair hay crop. Hops have a strong growth, with the appearance of being untouched by blight.

Oats Cut Green and Sowing Corn thickly.—Samuel Williams, of Waterloo, N. Y., gives in the Genesee Farmer the management of a farmer who stables his cows six months in the year, making his manure by composting, and who says that nothing exhausts the soil so little, that pays so well in a dry season, when hay is short, as oats cut in the milk for winter fodder, particularly for sheep. We think if he should also adopt the practice of sowing corn very thickly in furrows three feet apart, he would regard the crop as even less exhausting and possessing great value for feeding green or dried, to cattle.—*Cultivator.*

The Texas papers say there never was a better promise of a large cane crop on the Brazos. The cotton crop also bids fair to be a large one. The corn is in forward condition, and the prospects for large crops generally in that section very flattering.

THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Conducted by
Mrs. MARY ABBOTT.

The Journey.

Since we took our excursion up the Missouri river we have had a severe attack of sickness contracted in the country before we returned home, which confined us to our bed for about ten days. We suffered so much from the fever that we felt quite incapacitated to give such a full and particular account of our trip as we should be glad to. We went to Rocheport on the steamer Martha Jewett, a most excellent boat, fitted up in superior style, both for elegance and comfort. The motto over the entrance to the ladies' cabin—"Be kind to the loved ones at home,"—corresponds with the Captain's conduct in paying a generous and polite attention to the ladies. We improved in health every day we were on the Martha Jewett. Martha Jewett is a name very dear to us, as we were intimately acquainted with Martha, sister of the captain, in our childhood and youth. We were of the same age, went for some years to the same school, and belonged to the same religious society. Well do we remember the kind, warm-hearted and gentle Martha. Well do we remember her when we were confined by illness to the house for some months, when she left her gay companions to visit the young invalid, to bring us news from the world of the young without, and sweet bouquets of flowers to refresh us in our sick room. Yes, we shall ever remember her with love and gratitude, till this heart shall cease to beat. The boat ought indeed be a good boat to be worthy to bear her name!

We made our first stop at Rocheport, and put up at Col. Easton's. We had every attention, and found it a very pleasant resting place. We shall not soon forget the kindness of the family to us. We made several pleasant acquaintances there. Rocheport is quite a pretty rural looking village; we were pleased to see the good side walks—a convenience that is seldom found in small villages.

We next went to Columbia, where there was a meeting of the Agricultural Society. We hope it may succeed well and do great things or that county. In order that it may live,

they must get the ladies interested in it. They must give premiums for every thing that can be made at home—especially for nice light bread and good butter. If they do this, the ladies will be to the Society as Aaron and Hur were to Moses,—to hold up his hands. We were kindly welcomed by Mrs. Switzer, who introduced us to Mr. and Mrs. Field, we were politely invited to their home and hospitably entertained over Sunday.

We then went to Boonville, and put up at Col. Pierce's Mansion House, where we received as good attention as we could wish for in any city. We were kindly invited by Mr. E. W. Brown to his residence in the country. He has a new place, but has well improved it for the time he has been on it. We made the acquaintance of his wife and spent a very pleasant time in walking among the flowers and listening to the singing of the birds, and looking at the fowls, of which they had a fine lot. Here we had some good light bread, an article quite scarce in the country. We became so well acquainted with Mrs. Brown, that she seemed like an old and well tried friend, and we shall ever remember our visit there with pleasure.

From there we went to Glasgow, a place where we hope we may never have to stop again. We were obliged to remain some hours at an uncomfortable hotel, till Capt. Cleveland's carriage arrived for us, and we were truly glad to see it. We had a delightful ride of five miles through a beautiful tract of country, passing by large fields of waving corn, wheat and hemp, thro' cool and shady groves, by fine country mansions, surrounded by every thing that could delight the eye and render a country life inviting, till we arrived at Capt. C's. where we were received with generous warmth and cordiality. Capt. Cleveland lives five miles from Glasgow, in a large and convenient country mansion, on a beautiful and well regulated farm. His house is located a short distance from the road, commanding an extensive view of his pleasant grounds. A wide and neat walk leads from the road to the house; on either side of the walk is a wide bed of flowers running its entire length, and blooming from early spring till late autumn, while the grounds around the house are interspersed with rose

bushes, flowering plants, shade and fruit trees, filling the whole air with their rich and fragrant odor, and we thought

'If there's peace to found in this world
The heart that is humble might hope for it here.'

He has a fine orchard from which he made five hundred dollars last year. We are sorry to say that the Captain wishes to sell his place. Farming is not 'active business' enough for him. We could recommend the place above all others we have seen, to any one who wishes to retire from the noise and bustle of city to the real enjoyments of country life.

We spent a pleasant time at Capt. Cleveland's, in the society of his wife and daughters, who are real ladies, and did every thing they could to render our stay agreeable. While there we visited Mr. Leonard's family, at Fayette, partook of an excellent dinner, and saw some relics of the past—a letter of General Washington's in his own hand-writing, a bible two hundred years old or upwards, and some other antiquities. After spending a pleasant afternoon with this agreeable family we returned to Capt. C's. and spent the Sabbath. Here ends most of the pleasant part of our trip. Then came rains, bad roads, long drives, fatigue and sickness.

We visited Georgetown, and were kindly entertained by Mr. Robinson's family, where we were quite sick, with our old disease of the heart. Mrs. Robinson paid us every attention in her power, for which we render her our sincere thanks. We then returned to Boonville, passing the night with Mr. A. S. Walker's family, who treated us with great kindness. At Boonville we spent the Sabbath with Mr. Myers. In this pleasant family we spent some happy hours. Here we ate some of the best raspberries we ever tasted. Sunday afternoon we were taken sick with the fever, which soon prostrated all the strength we had gained. Mrs. Myers did all she could to make us comfortable, and we shall ever remember her with gratitude.

Monday morning we went on board the Kate Swinney, and although too sick to notice any thing else we were glad to find such spacious state rooms and large beds. We received the best of attention while on board, every thing being quite still and quiet.

Now we are at home, we remember much of our journey with pleasure, and on the whole do not regret having taken it, as we made many acquaintances whom we shall not soon forget.

The Sabbath.

There is no land where—all religious obligations aside—the Sabbath is so necessary as in this country. We would be barbarians without it. Already the lust of money and distinction, acting upon natures lashed by our peculiar institutions into the most vehement emulations, wrinkles almost every brow, and makes anxiety a constant presence and power at which strangers gaze and wonder. Our very pleasures have this dash of impatience about them; and our days and hours, hurried on in the whirl of constant excitement, lose their distinctness, and mingle in a misty mass in which the better reasoning faculty can distinguish little that accords with the natural purposes of life. Were this hurried way of life, this eager hunt of gold or rank uninterrupted, it would soon sweep away before it all that elevates and purifies human nature, or gives the grace and goodness of life.

The Sabbath stays the severer pulse of society, it opens the low and dark clouds that gather around the heart, and lets in the light of better thoughts and loftier feelings. To lose this recurring dispensation from the curse of the impetuous life-struggle, would be to render our destiny that of the dungeon slave. While, therefore, we regard the desecration of the Sabbath as primarily offensive as a violation of a divine law, we condemn it as a war against the better charities of life—as a wrong done to the heavy laden—as a step taken onwards to barbarism.

We see with great regret a constant tendency to the loss of the Sabbath. This is the greatest in those communities where the pulse of society is most rapid and intermittent, and where the worship of mammon or of pleasure is as perpetual as it is absorbing. This hostility to the Sabbath is manifested in the success of the Sunday papers, devoted to business and pleasure, and in the devotion of the day to idle entertainments.

They who invade the day of rest do a wrong to the race at large, and aid in weakening a divine institution given in mercy, and inseparable from the interests of civilization.—*North American.*

Cure for Dyspepsia or Heartburn.—If you will take medicine home made. Mix four ounces lime water with one ounce liquor of potassa and tincture with syrup of orange peel. Take a table spoonful in water or broth, if preferred before meals.

DAHLIA.—Elegance and Dignity.

The Dahlia is a native of South America, but is now extensively cultivated in Europe and North America. The shrub grows to a considerable height, and the flowers are large and beautiful. The most common colors are crimson and purple. No more appropriate emblem of elegance and dignity of carriage could have been selected. These qualities strike us at the first view of the Dahlia.

I loved thee for thy high-born grace,
Thy deep and lustrous eye—
For the sweet meaning of thy brow,
And for thy bearing high.

I loved thee for thy stainless truth,
Thy thirst for higher things,
For all that to our common lot
A better temper brings.

And are they not all thine—still thine?
Is not thy heart as true?

Holds not thy step its nobler grace?
Thy cheek its dainty hue?

And have I not an ear to hear?

And a cloudless eye to see—

And a thirst for beautiful human thought,
That first was stirred by thee?

WILLIS.

From The Youth's Companion.

Mary's Rich Dress.

'Mamma,' said a little girl of nine years, 'there were so many little girls at the party last night, dressed better than I—there was Ann Seymour, and Julia Brentford, and Lucinda Jones, all of these were dressed in silk and blond, and Ann, who is the oldest, is only two years older than myself.'

'Mary,' said the mother, gravely, 'would a fine dress make you any happier?'

'Not exactly *happier*, mamma, but does not every one like to wear a pretty dress?'

'Pretty, but not expensive, my love, a dress may be. Those of which you spoke cost, I presume, a great deal of money, and were not appropriate for such young people.'

'Are not the Seymours rich, mamma?'

'They are said to be so, my dear; but do you not think that if some poor person had a part of the money Miss Seymour's fine dress cost, that it would better laid out, and that a simple muslin dress is really prettier for a little girl 11 years old?'

Mary was ingenuous and straightforward.—She was not convinced. She shook her curly head, and summed up the matter by a very decided wish for a gay dress. Mrs. Worthing was a sensible woman, and an indulgent mother; and while she really wished to gratify her child, she was also sure that by doing so, she could more effectually cause her to see the inconvenience and impropriety of dressing beyond her age and station.

'Mary,' she at length said, 'if you really

believe an expensive dress will make you happier, you may have one, and shall choose for yourself.'

Mary's blue eyes sparkled, and her innocent face beamed with delight:—'When, mamma, when may I have one?'

'We will go out together this afternoon, and select the material, and you can have it ready for the picnic which it is said the Misses Mantague intend giving to their young ladies, at Markham Academy.'

'Oh, that will be delightful;' and Mary clapped her hands, and danced about, and waited impatiently for evening.

At length the dress was selected, and a fashionable mantua maker sent for, that it should be made in the first mode. It was very pretty royal-purple and white plaid silk, and when dressed in it, Mary, with her long flowing golden curls, *did* look quite like a *new wax doll*, with the ample skirt standing far out from her slender waist, and the bodice high, and fitting so tightly, that it seemed to admonish her to keep in one position, and that a straight one. But Mary turned round and round before the glass, and gave a contemptuous thought to the pure white muslin, coral necklace, and sky blue sash, and shoes, that had composed her sweet and simple dress at the party before mentioned. The day for the picnic arrived, and Mary, who had the day previous received invitation, prepared with a glowing cheek and a bounding heart, to array herself in her robes of fashion. There were misty, vague, dreamy fantasies in her little brain, of the admiration she would excite, and the envy, perhaps, of the less fortunate belles, would follow in its train. Alas! how truly does the poet paint the evils or pride, in those excellent rhymes for the young, called 'Watts' Hymns.'

'The art of pride did ne'er begin,
Till Eve our mother learnt to sin.'

But taken in the bud, it may be eradicated from the human heart, and we shall soon see whether Mary's mother succeeded in her laudable endeavor.

The morning was brilliant one, upon which the young people assembled. The place of meeting, a beautifully wooded dell, behind the Academy, had been variously decorated with floral beauties. Wreaths of flowers, entwined with cedars, hung from the lower branches of the trees. An arbor was formed of evergreens, mixed with flowers, and intermingled with large shells. A large space of turf was cleared, and *rolled*, (to render it smooth); and this fairy ball-room was marked off by a boundary of flowers, that had every appearance of growing there. The little Misses there assembled, were mostly dressed in plain white, with here and there a pretty pink or blue muslin, but few were attired with fashion, or (agreeably to the

term) elegance. Among the the number who rejoiced under the *iron rule of Fashion*, was our little Mary. Her mother watched her with much interest and some anxiety. Mary looked around upon the youthful group with some satisfaction, and was most especially gratified, when the younger ones pressed round her to examine closely the beautiful dress. While dancing, it was displayed to much advantage, and many a tiny maiden sighed, to think that she could never hope for garb so fine. But the young folks soon tired of the methodical amusement of dancing—they met for *fun*, and *fun* they *must* have. It was first proposed to play 'hide and seek.' So off they scampered and quickly dispersed behind the trees, till you would positively believe each little elf had gone to its fairy home. At this announcement Mary's happiness fell *one degree*. The moss and underwood soiled her dress, and she was several times obliged to stop and take her pocket handkerchief and rub off some spot; and frequently while engaged thus, some laughing fugitive would fly by, and by depositing her upon the grass, give her the same work to do again.—No, she could not play 'hide and seek,' so she went to her mother, and placing her pocket handkerchief on the grass, with rather a crest-fallen countenance watched the gambols of her happy companions.

At length the good things were taken from their hiding places, a table cloth spread upon the ball-room floor, and soon the little merry clattering things were sent about in all directions, dotting the grass, and mossy banks, like so many frisking lambs. Here again were fresh *discomforts* for poor Mary. The excitement of the wish to display had worn off, and every minute brought with it fresh cause for annoyance. The boys, (as boys *will* be,) were some of them, rather wanting in strict courtesy; and now and then crusts of bread, pieces of apple, and cake, and orange peel, made a sudden appearance from some unknown quarter, till one unlucky hit, intended for an urchin just behind Mary, obliged her to jump up, and have recourse again to her handkerchief, which had now become so saturated as to be unfit to place beneath her, and fearing to crease the silk by taking up her dress, she was compelled to stand for the remainder of the meal, the conclusion of which was a relief to her, the fear of soiling her dress had taken away her appetite. The meal ended, away went the happy crowd, dispersing through the woods; the elder ones proposing a fishing excursion. Mary of course could not venture her fine dress in a dirty fishing boat, and so she occupied a chair placed for one of the few grown persons of the party, and *moralized*. Yes, Mary *moralized*. She had felt that she was not only no happier, but *less* happy in the constraint of a fashionable, elegant dress; and firm was the resolution

she made, in her heart of hearts, to wear her simple cambric at the next party. But her trials were not yet over. Evening came on, and with it misty clouds, which the little fun lovers *hoped* would turn to rain. Their hopes were *realized*. The rain came on, and Mary with frock over her head, walked sorrowfully behind her mother. Running was out of the question with her. She felt so cramped from the unusual tightness of the waist, that severe pain was the consequence, and her spirits were now *below zero*. Quickly and merrily the white robed damsels reached their homes, as quickly did they put on dry clothes, and then while they discussed the events of the day, both mirth and pity were bestowed upon the elegantly dressed Mary Worthing. Mary could no longer keep up her ebbing spirits. Her tears flowed as she walked on, as soon as she arrived at home she threw herself into her mother's arms, as in an agony of despair. The mother tenderly removed her daughter's wet clothes, then gently said, 'My Mary then does not believe a fine dress can make her happy.' Mary for sobs could not at first reply, then she said, 'Take' take away that dress mamma, never let me see it more. Oh, I have been so unhappy.'

'My precious child,' said the tender mother, 'I do not consider the money for that dress wasted, if it has taught you that fine dressing is a vain and useless thing. Contentment is happiness, contentment with whatever station God sees fit to bless us. We are not rich, my love, and cannot give you these outward adornments—but we can, and do try to give you the ornament of 'a meek and quiet spirit,' and are anxious you should obtain 'the pearl without price,' for that will live, when earthly goods are no more.'

THE EXILE.

A very good plain Soda-Cake.—Take three cupfuls of flour, one cupful of sugar, one egg, one teaspoonful of butter, two teaspoonfuls of soda, one teaspoonful of essence of lemon, and one cupful of sweet milk. Beat the egg, and mix it with butter and sugar, and dissolved in the milk. Add two cupfuls of flour; then mix the cream of tartar, dry with the cupful of flour, and add that to the other, and roll out and bake at once in flat pans.

Mrs. Thurston's Method of making Brown Bread.—My method of making Brown Bread is as follows, to wit: Take equal parts of Rye and Indian meal, well sifted—say two parts of each, then to a half pint of molasses, add two teaspoonfuls of salaratus dissolved in water; stir the two together until it produces fermentation; turn the contents to the meal; add one tea-spoonful of fine salt, and mix the whole with cold water, to a rather soft consistency, and put it immediately in the oven.

ST. LOUIS MARKET—WHOLESALE.

VALLEY FARMER OFFICE; July 10, 1892.

Business in the city is nearly at its lowest point, but still produce transactions are quite brisk. A good deal is doing in both tobacco and hemp, while considerable quantities of wheat, corn and bacon are coming into market. A few lots of new wheat have been received, which looks well and sold for 75 cts. per bushel. In the live stock trade not much is doing at present. Drivers have had to submit to a slight reduction of prices, and we do not expect very extensive operations until the warm weather is over. Horses and working oxen are in demand.

HEMP—per ton, \$75 to \$85. Demand fair.
 HEMP—per bu., country, \$2.50 to \$3.50; city, \$1 to \$1.50—Dolls.

WHEAT—per bushel, old, 60 to 65 cts. new, 70 to 75 cents.

CORN—per bushel, 35 to 40 cents.

OATS—per bushel, 27 to 30 cents.

BARLEY—per bushel, 30 to 35 cents.

MESS PORK—per bu., \$16.25 to \$16.75.

PICKED HAMS—per lb., 8 1/2 to 9 cents.

LARD—per lb., No. 1, 9 to 10 cents.

BULK MEAT—per lb., 6 3/4 to 7 1/4 cents.

SUGAR—per lb., common, 5 to 6 1/4 cents.

MOLASSES—per gallon, 29 to 35 cents.

COFFEE—per lb., \$1.15 to \$1.30.

SALT—per sack, \$1.15 to \$1.30.

PIG IRON—per ton, cold blast, \$24.

HAY—per hundred, timothy, 45 to 55 cents.

TOBACCO—Operations of two days at the warehouses in this city. Receipts 100 al. mat. moderately active, and a fair business doing at full prices. July 6th, the sales were 100 hds., of which 45 sold at the State Warehouse, including 22 of lugs and seconds at \$2.55 and \$3.95, 13 of seconds and shipping at \$14 \$1 95, 7 of leaf at \$6, 70 at \$5.75, and 3 at \$6.00 a \$5.60; at the Planters, 60 hds. sold, including 29 of lugs and seconds at \$2.90 a 2-75; 25 of seconds and leaf at \$4.05 a \$1 95; 6 at \$5 a \$5.80, and 1 at \$5.20. July 7, at the State Warehouse, sales were 6 hds. lugs and common seconds at \$2.50 a \$3.95, and 10 of seconds and leaf at \$1.50 a \$5.65. At the Planters, 3 hds. of lugs sold at \$2.92 a \$2.95; 30 of lugs and seconds at \$3.65 a \$1.90, 14 of seconds and shipping at \$14 \$1 95; 6 of leaf at \$1.10 a \$1.95, and 5 of manufacturing at \$6 a \$3.65 per 100 lbs. Entire sales at both warehouses, to date this season, 3301 hds. Same time last year, 2573. Excess this over last year 1778 hds.

BUTTER AND CHEESE—Fair country butter, 9 to 10c; good to prime, 14 to 16c; choice Ohio roll, 18 to 22c. W. R. cheese 7 1/4 to 7 1/2 cts per lb.

SEED—Clover, per bushel \$1.50 to \$5 Flaxseed \$1 to \$1.10; Timothy \$2 per bushel.

WOOL—Demand active. Sales of 12 bales unwashed in lots at 16 1/2 to 17 cents, and 1000 lbs. merino about one half washed at 25 cents, and 2000 lbs., nearly full merino mostly unwashed at 25 cents.

ST. LOUIS LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE VALLEY FARMER, }
 Wednesday, July 7. }

BEEF CATTLE—The stock of cattle in the various yards is but small; there appears to be very little activity in the cattle trade at present. Shipments are small, and market remains firm at previous rates. Beaves in good order for city consumption are taken at from \$4.50 to \$4.75 per hundred.

HOGS—Are in better demand, and advancing a shade. City butchers are now paying from \$4.50 to \$5 per hundred for the best.

CALVES—There is no change. The best fat-ted sell readily from \$2.50 to \$7 and \$8 as to size, per head.

SHEEP—Prices firm and steady. There is but a limited supply in the stock yards. The best and readily taken from \$1.50 to \$2.75 for immediate use.

LAMBS—Good lambs are in constant demand. The market is not well supplied at present, owing to the farmers being busy in gathering their crops.

COWS WITH CALVES—There is not much demand at this season of the year, and there are but few good family cows brought in. There is but a small number in the cow yards to select from, and prices range from \$14 to \$25, as to quality and age.—*Intelligencer*.

Rye flour when made into good light bread and allowed a day or two to ripen is very nutritious and wholesome. Rye flour more nearly resembles wheat flour in its composition than any other; it has however, more of certain gummy and sugary substances which make it tenacious and also impart a sweetish taste. All grain and roots which have much starch in them undergo a great change in their chemical composition by baking—flour becomes more nutritious and more easily digestible because more soluble. This is also the case with flour; that is, the starch, gluten and sugar of potatoes, when baked, or what is still better, when roasted in the hot embers of an old-fashioned farm house fire.—*American Agriculturist*.

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